WEDNESDAY
November 23, 2022

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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THE HINDU GROUP

The Hindu celebrated Children's Day by inviting entries from readers to share photos of their child dressed up as their favourite Indian icons and leaders. Here's a round up of the overwhelming response from our readers.

Congratulations and best wishes to these little stars.

Happy Children's Day

THE HINDU

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SENSATIONAL UPSET

Saudi Arabia stuns Messi's Argentina

SPORT » PAGE 15

ASSAM ON ALERT

Six killed in skirmish at Meghalaya border

NEWS » PAGE 10

INDONESIA EARTHQUAKE

Death toll climbs to 268; many missing

WORLD » PAGE 13

DATA PROTECTION BILL

Protecting state surveillance

The 2022 Bill fails to protect the right to privacy of citizens

OPINION » PAGE 9

ROZGAR MELA

PM distributes 71,000 appointment letters

NEWS » PAGE 10

SC calls out Centre over short tenures of CECs

Centre paying mere 'lip-service' to independence of poll panel, evident in the way Chief Election Commissioners have had a term of just a few hundred days since 2004, says Justice Joseph

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said the government pays mere "lip-service" to the independence of the Election Commissioners and this is evident from the way the tenures of Chief Election Commissioners (CECs) have "slid" down from over eight years in the 1950s to just about a few hundred days after 2004.

"Their (CECs) tenure is highly truncated and known from the very beginning... In this way, this so-called independence that you pay lip-service to, I am sorry to say, is completely destroyed by getting this kind of a term," Justice K.M. Joseph, heading a Constitution Bench, addressed the Union government.

> After 2004, particularly, the slide has begun in terms of picking up those persons whom of course the government knows the date of birth of... They (government) know that these persons would never ever get anywhere close to six years
> JUSTICE K.M. JOSEPH

Justice Joseph said the previous UPA government had six CECs in just eight years. "After the present government took over, from 2015 to 2022, for seven years, we have had eight CECs!" Justice Joseph, leading a five-judge Bench, addressed Attorney-General R. Venkataramani, appearing for the Centre.

Justice Joseph said successive governments, particularly after 2004, have "picked" people whom it knew would "never ever" get close to the full term of six years prescribed under the Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business) Act of 1991. Section 4 of the 1991 Act says the term of a CEC and Election Commissioners is six years or till the age of 65, whichever is earlier.

"This is a very, very, very disturbing trend! After 2004, particularly, the slide has begun in terms of picking up those persons whom of course the government knows the date of birth of... They (government) know that these persons would never ever get anywhere close to six years," he observed orally.

He said protections under Article 324, like removal through impeachment, available under the Constitution to the CECs would only be of any use if he or she had a full term.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

16-year-old girl dies in road accident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 16-year-old girl was killed and her mother and younger brother injured, when a Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) bus knocked down their scooter on Bhattarahalli Road in K.R. Puram on Tuesday morning.

Rash driving by the bus driver caused the accident, the traffic police said.

The deceased has been identified as Layashri, a Class X student of Kendriya Vidyalaya. Priyadarshini, 45, and Yashwin, 11, escaped with minor injuries and are currently recovering at a hospital. Ms. Priyadarshini was heading towards T.C. Palya to drop her children at school when the bus, going from T.C. Palya to Bhattarahalli, veered to the right and knocked the scooter down, the police said.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 3

India-Australia trade pact set to open up opportunities: Goyal

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

The trade pact with Australia that was ratified by the Australian Parliament on Tuesday will "significantly open up opportunities" for many Indian business sectors, said Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday.

Speaking at a press conference, Mr. Goyal welcomed the bipartisan support extended by Australia to the Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) that was signed by India with the previous Australian administration under Prime Minister Scott Morrison.

The comments from the Minister came soon after Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese personally announced the passing of the trade agreement by the Australian Parliament.

Piyush Goyal

"Because of this agreement and businesses wanting to set up manufacturing in India, we also see a lot of potential for jobs by Australian investments coming to India – manufacturing in India at scale to serve the Indian market and the rest of the world from India. This will create job opportunities for our young boys and girls," Mr. Goyal said.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

NEARBY

No-honking rules yet to be enforced

BENGALURU
There has not been any kind of enforcement of the no-honking rules in Cubbon Park and a dozen other stretches in and around the CBD. » Page 2

BJP complains to ECI against Cong.

BENGALURU
The BJP, which has come under fire over the alleged irregularities by a Trust in a fraudulent voter survey, has now written to the ECI seeking action against the Congress and its leader Siddaramaiah in the case. » Page 6

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 5

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Text&Context

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NEWS IN NUMBERS

Iran says it is enriching uranium at the Fordo underground facility

60 The percentage at which Iran has begun enriching uranium at its Fordo plant, an underground facility that reopened three years ago amid the breakdown of its nuclear deal with major powers. The move was part of Iran's response to the UN nuclear watchdog's adoption of a censure motion last week, accusing it of non-cooperation. AFP

World economic growth to slow down this year, says OECD

3.1 The % at which global GDP is set to grow this year — nearly half the rate of last year, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development said. The slide is due to continue next year, with global growth falling to 2.2% before rebounding to a relatively modest 2.7% in 2024. The energy shock has pushed inflation and is hitting economic growth around the world. AFP

Death toll in Mahsa Amini protests rises to 416, says rights group

72 The number of people Iranian security forces have killed in the past week alone in their crackdown on the protests sparked by Mahsa Amini's death, a rights group said on Tuesday. Norway-based group Iran Human Rights said in its latest toll on the violence inside Iran that 416 people had been killed by security forces nationwide, including 51 children and 21 women. AFP

Death toll from Indonesia earthquake rises from 162

268 The death toll from the earthquake that shook Indonesia, as more bodies were found beneath collapsed buildings. The Cianjur regional disaster mitigation agency said that the number of dead increased from 162 reported the night before.The city of Cianjur was near the epicentre of the 5.6 magnitude earthquake that hit Monday afternoon. AP

Every eleven minutes, a woman is killed by partner or family

11 The number of minutes, under which a woman or a girl is killed by an intimate partner or a family member in the world, United Nations chief Antonio Guterres said. He added that violence against them is the most pervasive "human rights violation" in the world and called on governments to implement national action plans that tackle this scourge. PTI

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RBI's concerns on slow deposit growth

Why did senior officials of the apex banking regulator meet the MD and CEOs of public and certain private sector banks? What are the possible reasons for low deposit growth? What is the net status of non-performing assets? Has credit growth risen when compared to the year-ago period?

EXPLAINER

Saptaparno Ghosh

The story so far:

The Governor, Deputy Governor and a few other senior officials of apex banking regulator, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), met MD and CEOs of public and certain private sector banks on November 16. Acknowledging the role played by private commercial banks in supporting economic growth during the pandemic and in the ongoing financial market turmoil, the Governor advised that banks "remain watchful" of the evolving macroeconomic situation, including global spillovers. Discussion points included the lagging growth in deposits in relation to credit growth, asset quality and adoption of new-age technology solutions among other things.

GETTY IMAGES

Why have banks been asked to remain "watchful"?

Global headwinds at present are emanating from three sources; Russian actions in Ukraine impacting energy supplies and prices (especially in Europe), economic slowdown in China because of frequent lockdowns due to its zero-COVID policy, and the increased cost-of-living because of resulting inflationary pressures.

Thus, monetary policies across the globe, especially of advanced economies, are being tightened, spurring concerns about financial stability risk in emerging and developing economies. The 'drag' occurs in two broad ways. Firstly, lower external demand drives down export demand obligating economic growth to be solely driven by domestic demand which might not be sufficiently strong. Second, higher global inflation and interest rates impact the flow of capital into the economy, putting downward pressure on domestic currency and in certain circumstances, higher imported inflation. To this effect, the regulator had stated in its November bulletin, "The (domestic) macroeconomic outlook can be best characterised as resilient but sensitive to formidable global headwinds."

What about deposit growth vis-a-vis credit growth?

Important to note, banks' credit-disbursing bandwidth is determined by its in-house reserves. More importantly, demand for credit increases with greater economic activity. As per the RBI bulletin, aggregate demand domestically bears an "uneven profile" at present. Urban demand appears robust and rural demand which was muted has also started acquiring some strength recently. Commercial bank credit growth too has been surging, led by services, personal loans, agriculture and industry, in that order. This reflects the growing preference for bank credit for meeting working capital requirements.

How are we placed with respect to deposits and credit growth?

As per the RBI's latest weekly data for scheduled commercial banks, aggregate deposits have grown 8.2% in comparison to 11.4% on a year-over-year basis whereas credit off-take has jumped 17% in comparison to a 7.1% increase on a YoY basis.

Senior Director and Deputy Chief Ratings Officer at CRISIL Ratings, Krishnan Sitaraman observed that it is not that deposit growth has fallen materially, but that credit growth has risen in the last few quarters. During the pandemic, owing to lower economic activity credit growth was on a lower trajectory. Now with economic activity returning to normalcy, the credit growth has picked up – especially in the previous three quarters.

Analysts have also pointed to deposit rates not going up as another reason for slower deposit growth. While banks passed on higher rates through loan portfolios, most of which were at floating rates, the approach was much measured with respect to deposit rates. Though this helped banks' net interest margins, it did not bolster their bandwidth to disburse further credit.

What about banks' asset quality?

RBI's November bulletin informed that gross non-performing assets (GNPAs) have consistently declined, with net NPAs sliding down to 1% of total assets. Liquidity cover is robust and profitability is shored up. However, market participants have raised concerns with respect to corporates in light of the macroeconomic situation.

"We can expect asset quality to improve on the corporate loan book. The reason is the de-leveraging that has happened in corporate India over the years wherein most corporates have been able to cut down on their debt level and improve their credit profiles," Mr. Sitaraman states.

Corporate NPAs are expected to come down in the current amd upcoming fiscals due to the setting up of the National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd which is expected to take over some of the legacy corporate loan NPAs which are still with banks.

THE GIST

- A few senior officials of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), met MD and CEOs of public and certain private sector banks on November 16 to discuss the lagging growth in deposits in relation to credit growth, asset quality and adoption of new-age technology solutions.
- As per the RBI's latest weekly data for scheduled commercial banks, aggregate deposits have grown 8.2% in comparison to 11.4% on a year-over-year basis whereas credit off-take has jumped 17% in comparison to a 7.1% increase on a YoY basis.
- Experts opine that it is not that deposit growth has fallen materially, but that credit growth has risen in the last few quarters. During the pandemic, owing to lower economic activity credit growth was on the lower trajectory. Now with economic activity returning to normalcy, the credit growth has picked up.

The SC ruling on pensions for women IAF officers

What are the landmark cases which have paved the way for a more egalitarian Army? What are the different ways in which the Army, the Navy and the IAF have made provisions for its women cadets?

Dinakar Peri

The story so far:

In an order on November 16, the Supreme Court asked the Indian Air Force (IAF) to consider the grant of pensionary benefits to 32 Short Service Commission (SSC) women officers, who fought for 12 long years to be reinstated and granted permanent commission. This is the latest in a series of legal judgements related to women officers in the armed forces, giving them equal opportunities along with their male counterparts.

What did the Court say?

A Bench comprising of the Chief Justice of India (CJI) D. Y. Chandrachud, Justice Hima Kohli and Justice J.B. Pardiwala said in their order that "These women SSC officers had the legitimate expectation of being granted an opportunity to claim permanent commission in terms of prevailing policy". The Bench further remarked that, "we are of the view that these women SSC officers be considered for grant of pensionary benefits," while exercising its extraordinary power under Article 142 of the Constitution for doing complete justice in any matter pending before it. The officers had joined the service between 1993-1998 and were granted extensions of six and four years successively before being released from service between 2006 to 2009.

"Reinstatement cannot be a viable option keeping in mind the requirement related to exigencies of serving the nation," it noted. The cases of the appellants will be evaluated on the basis of the HR Policy of November, 2010, the court said while making it clear that the officers shall not be entitled to arrears of salary. The CJI also appreciated the IAF for taking a "fair approach".

Does the Army also offer permanent commission?

The Navy and the IAF had opened up permanent commission to women much before the Army.

In a landmark judgment in the *Babita Puniya* case in February 2020, the Supreme Court directed that women officers in the Army be granted permanent commission (PC) as well as command postings in all services other than combat. Further, on March 25, 2021 the Supreme Court in *Lt. Col. Nitisha vs. Union of India* held that the Army's selective evaluation process discriminated against and disproportionately affected women officers seeking permanent commission.

Giving an overview on women officers in the armed forces, in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha in response to a question from Member of Parliament Priyanka Chaturvedi in August, Minister of State Ajay Bhatt said that in the Army, women are commissioned in 10 arms and services as officers and that permanent commission had been granted. "Women serve as medical doctors and dentists in the Indian armed forces. Only women serve as nurses in Military Nursing Service. Women are being inducted as jawans in Corps of Military Police since 2019," the reply said.

In another reply to Parliament, the government informed that the National Defence Academy (NDA) has started inducting women cadets from the Autumn 2022 term, with 19 vacancies being allotted to women. The Navy has also opened 12 branches, cadres and specialisations for women officers. It has already announced that women would be inducted as Agniveers under the Agnipath scheme, with training set to commence shortly. On the IAF, the reply added that, "women serve in all arms and services as officers in the IAF akin to their male counterparts." As per a written reply in Parliament in March, there are 1,640 women officers in the IAF excluding medical, dental and nursing officers. This number incudes 15 fighter pilots, and 53 transport and helicopter pilots each. The fighter stream of IAF was opened for women in 2016.

THE GIST

- In an order on November 16, the Supreme Court asked the Indian Air Force (IAF) to consider the grant of pensionary benefits to 32 Short Service Commission (SSC) women officers.
- The officers had joined the service between 1993-1998 and were granted extensions of six and four years successively before being released from service between 2006 to 2009.
- In a landmark judgment in the *Babita Puniya* case in February 2020, the Supreme Court directed that women officers in the Army be granted permanent commission (PC) as well as command postings in all services other than combat.

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Despite a 2020 order, no-honking rules have not yet been enforced

Apart from inside Cubbon Park, the order also marked Palace Road, Sankey Road, Ambedkar Road, and St. Mark's Road as silent zones

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

Recently, there was a campaign organised in Cubbon Park by a citizens' collective called Citizens for Citizens (CFC), in association with the Horticulture Department to create awareness among people to not honk inside the premises of the park, as it is a no-honking zone.

The Horticulture Department also erected 16 boards inside the park to indicate that it is a silent zone. Yet, so far there has not been any kind of enforcement of the same inside the park, according to Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) officials.

This is also the case in around a dozen stretches which had been declared as no-honking zones in and around the Central Business District (CBD)m in an order passed in 2020 by then City Police Commissioner Bhaskar Rao.

Apart from inside Cubbon Park, the order had also marked many busy roads like Palace Road, Sankey Road, Ambedkar Road, and St Mark's Road as silent zones.

Many who commute on these roads regularly are not even aware about the rule. Given the volume of traffic which passes through these roads, honking sounds can be heard every few minutes.

"I travel from my house in Hebbal to my workplace in Trinity Circle every day and take these roads. During peak hours, even I have honked a few times on Palace Road. I do not think many are aware that there are no-honking zones in the city," said Anisha. J., a private firm employee.

There are a lot of citizen groups which have held many campaigns in the last few years to educate people about the ill effects of honking. However, they believe that without strict enforcement, it is hard to get through to people.

"Even if we do weekly campaigns, people will not understand the message so easily. But, if a few violators are penalised and that is highlighted on social media, then it sends a stronger message in this case," said Rajkumar Dugar, convener, CFC.

Special Commissioner (Traffic) M.A. Saleem said that there should not be any no-honking zones as the whole city should be horn free.

"Honking itself should not be there anywhere, like how it is in other countries. It is unpleasant behaviour and unfortunately, we see this honking culture here. To achieve total no-honking, a paradigm shift is required. We are observing this in the IT hub, now that most people do not honk. No honking is enforced well there. The same should happen at other places and for that, we need to ensure that there is continuous education".

Silent zones according to the 2020 order

Road	From and to
Palace Road	Maharani Junction to CID Junction CID junction to Maharani Junction
Ambedkar Road	K.R. Circle to Ambedkar Junction
Museum Road	Ashirvadam junction to SBI Junction
St. Mark's Road	SBI junction to Koshy's Hotel Junction Bishop Cotton's Girls School to Cash Pharmacy
Inside MS Building	AGS Circle to Dr. Ambedkar Road
Shasakara Bhavana	Vidhana Soudha to LH premises
High Court	All the roads inside HC premises
Raj Bhavan	All roads inside Raj Bhavan
Vidhana Soudha	All roads inside Vidhana Soudha
Road inside Cubbon Park	All roads inside Cubbon Park

A file photo of a Citizens for Citizens member with a placard inside Cubbon Park.

HC declines to entertain plea on having 'mobile garden' on roof of vehicles

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday declined to entertain a PIL petition by a city-based advocate seeking a direction to the State and the Central governments to conduct a survey and formulate a scheme to have "mobile garden" on the roof of vehicles as has been done by the petitioner on his car.

Though the efforts of the petitioner to contribute to the environment are appreciable and his plea looks very attractive at the first blush, the court said that it raises two questions: one on the choice of individuals on the use of the roof of their vehicles and the permissibility of the use of a vehicle in law.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice Ashok S. Kinagi passed the order while dismissing the petition that was filed by K. Suresh.

The petitioner has been using a miniature plantation on the roof of his car by putting mud on the plastic sheet spreading on the rooftop carrier. "One can't lose sight of the fact that using the vehicle in the way the user likes is the choice of the individual. By issuing such directions to the State government, that is, conducting survey, implementing and effecting the scheme, there is certainly an encroachment and impeachment of an individual's choice," the Bench observed.

The Bench also pointed out that modification of the vehicle for having "mobile garden" may not be in consonance with Motor Vehicle Acts or Rules. The petitioner, who argued the petition personally, said that he had written to the top functionaries of the State and the Central governments to explore the possibility of making such a scheme by converting rooftop of their vehicle into "mobile garden".

During the hearing he suggested that if the Chief Justice of the High Court implemented this concept on his car, then many would try to follow it.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public that the below properties, more particularly described in the Schedule Property hereunder written are under the joint ownership of **1) Sri. Mr. Udaya Kumar, 2) Manjula Devi, 3) Indumathi** and **4) Chitra Ravindran.** Our client intend to purchase the below mentioned property.

PERSONS having any claim over the Schedule Property in respect thereof by way of sale exchange, gift, mortgage, charge, trust, inheritance, possession, lease lien or otherwise, however are requested to inform the same in writing to the undersigned having their Office at Adv. C V Siju, M/s Law Links, No. 307, 3rd Floor, Sophia's Choice, St. Marks Road, Bangalore 560001, within **10 days** from the date hereof failing which, the claim or claims if any, of such person/persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and the transfer shall be completed.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Property old No. 19, New No. 50, Markam Road, Ashok Nagar, Civil area, Bangalore, measuring East to West 23 Feet, North to South 25'-3', bounded on the:

East : Portion of Same property, West : Property of others, North : Markam's Road, South : Property of Usman.

Together with all rights, appurtenances standing thereon.

Adv. C.V. Siju, M/s. LAW LINKS,
No.307, 3 Floor, Sophia's Choice,
St Marks Road, Bangalore-560001,
9845062318, advevsiju@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client **Smt. M. Anji Lakshmi** W/o Late G. Mohan R/a 11 A Street, Elpe Thopu Shanti Nagar, HAL II Stage, Bangalore 560008 negotiated to purchase the property described in the schedule hereunder from its lawful owners **SRI.G. SHANKAR,** S/o Late. Venkataramana Aged about 56 years, R/a no 38, Sri Venkatadri 22nd main road, 5th stage, J.P Nagar Bangalore 560078 Rep by his GPA holder Smt. Prema W/o Late Manjunath r/a no 25, Kunchagaranahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramnagar Taluk

Person/s having claim or objection if any are hereby called upon to lodge the same in writing along with supportive documents within along with supportive documents with the undersigned within **7 days** from the date of this notice failing which, our client shall proceed with the above mentioned transaction.

SCHEDULE

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East by : Private property, West by : 30 feet wide road, North by : Site No. 402, South by : Site No. 403.

IMRAN PASHA,
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Ph: +91 9844645641 off: 8152815255
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|| Jai Sri Gurudev ||
Sri Adichunchanagiri Shikshana Trust®
14th BGS Founder's Day & BGS Utsav 2022
On 24th and 25th November 2022 at 10.30AM
Venue - BGS Health & Education City Campus, Kengeri, Bengaluru

In the Divine Presence of His Holiness Jagadguru
Sri Sri Sri Dr. Nirmalanandanatha Maha Swamiji
President, Sri Adichunchanagiri Shikshana Trust®

Revered **Sri Sri Dr. Prakashnath Swamiji**
Managing Director,
BGS & SJB Group of Institutions, Bangalore

Inauguration of
Founder's Day & BGS Utsav 2022
On 24th November 2022 at 10.30AM

Inauguration of Founder's Day & BGSGIMS Library by

Shri Basavaraj S Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt. of Karnataka

Presided by

Shri R. Ashoka
Hon'ble Minister for Revenue excluding Muzrai, Govt. of Karnataka

Release of India Book of Records

Shri S.T. Somashekhar
Hon'ble Minister for Co-operation Govt. of Karnataka

Guest of Honour

Shri Anil Kumar Radadiya
Hon'ble Addl. P.S to Health & Family Welfare Minister, Govt. of India

Inauguration of BGS Utsav

Ms. Ramya
Former Member of Parliament, Mandya / Cine Actrees

Inauguration of
BGS Utsav 2022 & Advanced Skills Lab
On 25th November 2022 at 09.00AM

Inauguration of Advanced Skills Lab

Padma Vibhushan **Sri Sri Jagadish Sadhguru**
Founder & Head, Isha Foundation

Dr. C.N. Ashwath Narayan
Hon'ble Minister for Skill Development, Higher Education & Information Technology, Govt. of Karnataka

Inauguration of BGS Utsav

Shri H.D. Kumaraswamy
Hon'ble Former Chief Minister of Karnataka

Shri Nikhil Kumaraswamy
Cine Actor / Politician

Dr. Vidhya Shankar S
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor VTU, Belgaum

Closing Ceremony of BGS UTSAV 2022 at 3:30PM

Presided by

Dr. K. Sudhakar
Hon'ble Minister for Health & Family Welfare & Medical Education, Govt. of Karnataka

Chief Guest
Prize Distribution by

Shri B.C. Nagesh
Hon'ble Minister of School Education, Literacy & Sakala, Govt. of Karnataka

Chief Guest
Prize Distribution by

Smt. Sumalatha Ambareesh
Hon'ble Member of Parliament Mandya, Karnataka

ABSTRACT

The political project of the Savarkarite international

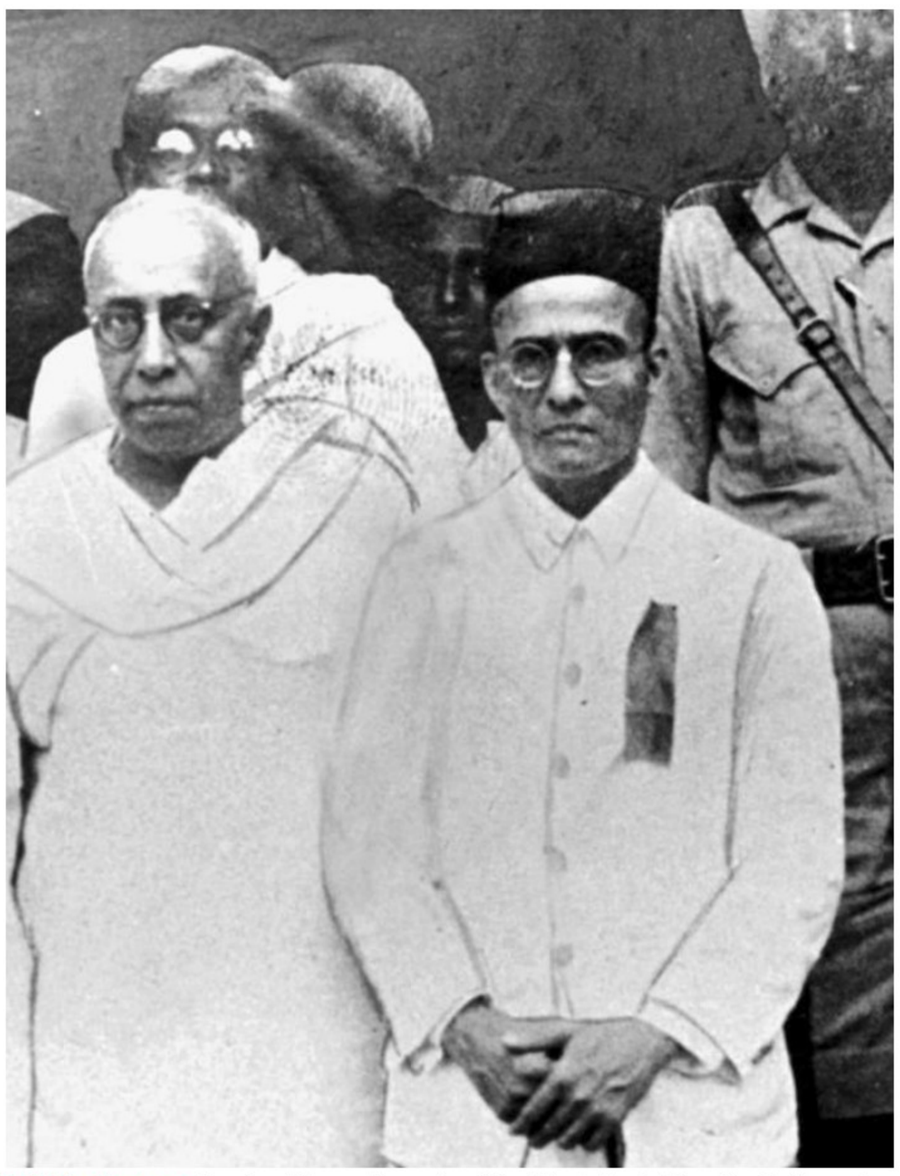
Leaders of the Hindutva ecosystem assert that the idea of 'Akhand Bharat' only signifies an imperative to unite all the world's Hindus culturally and spiritually. But this paper, through the works of V. D. Savarkar, begs to differ

G. Sampath

Mishra, Atul (2022). Locusts vs. the gigantic octopus: the Hindutva international and "Akhand Bharat" in V.D. Savarkar's history of India, India Review, 21:4-5, 512-545, DOI: 10.1080/14736489.2022.2131121

For the longest time in independent India, the works of V. D. Savarkar had a limited following, restricted to the Hindutva ecosystem. The ideas of a man charged as a co-conspirator in the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi were unlikely to get mainstream attention without a dramatic change in the political and cultural climate. Post-2014, such a change has indeed come to pass, and there have been systematic efforts to build Savarkar into an icon on par with Gandhi. This development has sparked renewed academic interest in his ideas. It was, after all, Savarkar who articulated for the first time a historically embedded vision of 'Hindus' as a political community and presented a version of the past as well as a program for the future aligned to that vision.

If we set aside for a moment the question of how much of Savarkarite history is nationalistic myth-making – there is a great deal of it – a close engagement with it could be analytically rewarding, especially for a nuanced understanding of contemporary dynamics in Indian politics.



Unfinished business: Savarkar at the opening session of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha Conference in Calcutta. THE HINDU ARCHIVES

The idea of the 'international'

Central to Savarkarite history, as also to Hindutva, is the idea of South Asia as the ancient homeland of the Hindus, named Bharat. As expounded in Savarkar's last work, 'Six Glorious Epochs of Indian History' (SGE), the history of 'Bharat' is essentially a history of the Hindus' martial triumphs over a series of foreign aggressors. Violence and warfare is central to Sarvakar's conception of Indian/Hindu history, and the 'six glorious epochs' refer to Hindu military victories over six foreign invaders: the Greeks, the Sakas, the Kushans, the Huns, the Muslims and the Christians (the British). How the 'international' is conceptualised in this book is the burden of this paper.

In this paper, the author undertakes a close reading of SGE to make two arguments: one, that SGE theorises an "organicist conception of the international" that contains a "social evolutionary" account of India's historical international relations; two, in Savarkarite thought, the resolution of the 'Akhand Bharat' problematic acquires the legitimacy and force of a millenialist, affectively charged history.

Some of the terminology might need explanation. Organicism is a mode of political and philosophical thought where entities – society, the nation – are considered as organic units, much like a living organism. Organicisim informed Nazism, for instance, leading them to worship the nation as an organism "the preservation of whose purity, vitality and virility is the proper task of nationalism". Organicism quickly fell into disrepute for enabling eugenicist and racist ideologies and is no longer taken seriously as a mode of social analysis. But it was in vogue in the early 20th century when Savarkar was conceptualising Hindutva, and its imprint in seen in Savarkarite historiography where, much like an organism that uses its immune system to defend itself against hostile 'invaders' (germs), Bharat's martial race of Hindus repelled foreign invaders time and again. By the term 'international', the author, refers to the Hindu realm's encounters with the powers or effects of a non-Hindu 'other' – usually in a violent way.

Savarkar divides Indian history into two periods: ancient and modern. The objective behind this periodisation is to separate the pre-Muslim (Greeks, Sakas, Kushans, Huns) invaders from the Muslim/Christian ones. In Savarkarite historiography, the pre-Muslim 'internationalisations' of the first period (600 BCE to 700 CE) were purely political in nature. But the 'internationalisations' of the second period (700 CE onwards), were both political and religious. As the author writes, "the categorisation of the Muslim invasions as modern enables Savarkar to construct a narrative of a millennium-long epic war between Hindus and Muslims that has yet to conclude."

The locusts versus the octopus

In the ancient period, Hindus successfully defended their homeland against four major aggressors – the Greeks, the Sakas, the Kushans and the Huns. As a result of these invasions, the Hindu homeland did get 'internationalised' – both geopolitically (parts of Hindu territory got occupied) and demographically ('yavana' and 'mlechha' foreigners came to live among Hindus). But by militarily defeating each of these aggressors, Hindus ended the geopolitical 'internationality', and by assimilating the foreigners within the Indian multitude, they shut the door on 'demographic internationality' as well.

The central task facing the Hindus of independent India, according to Savarkar, is to make the 'khandit' (fragmented) Bharat 'Akhand' again

The invading armies of the Sakas, Kushans, etc were like the eponymous 'locusts' that were 'digested' or indigenised by the gigantic 'octopus' – the powerful living organism that is the Hindu nation. For Savarkar, Hindus restoring their territorial and racial-cultural nationality through a series of martial triumphs is no mere historical fact. Each of these victories represent an epoch in a glorious history that also demonstrates the superiority of Hindu culture and power.

But in the second period, from about 700 CE or so, for various reasons, including an internal weakening of the Hindus, things panned out differently. Nonetheless, the Hindus seemed to have finally won the epic battle against Muslim power when the Marathas defeated the Mughals. But then came the Christian/British power, and the two connived to inflict a great setback on the Hindus – Partition.

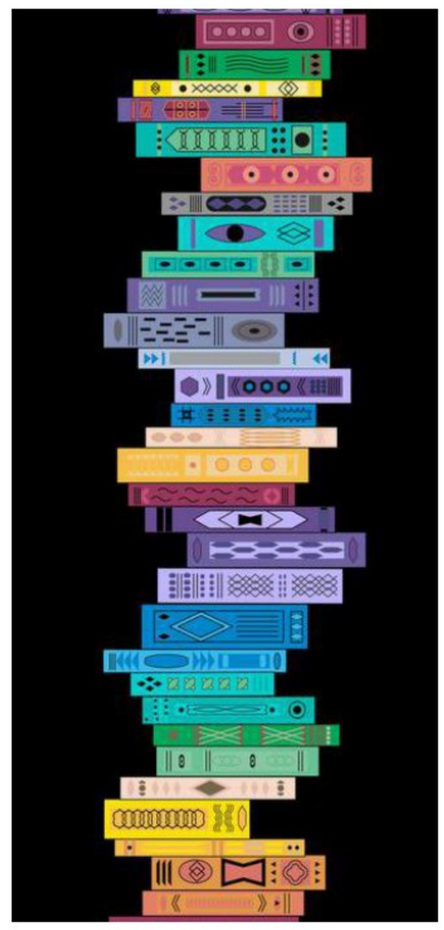
As 'Bharat' became fragmented ('khandit'), it suffered losses that were territorial as well as demographic, and today, it's shrunken territory is flanked on either side by alien cultures and sovereignties. Therefore, the central task – the moral imperative – facing the Hindus of independent India, according to Savarkar, is to make the 'khandit' Bharat 'akhand' again. In this context, it is particularly significant that "Savarkar considered political violence a virtue central to the practice and constitution of the Hindu self". He deemed violence to be essential not merely to defend but also to "avenge past injustice and humiliation". Savarkar, in this sense, is the quintessential anti-Gandhi for whom Gandhi's extreme non-violence was "dangerous" as it could "emasculate the Hindu social body". For him, it "was virtuous, even necessary to assassinate preachers of non-violence". SGE contains stories 'that praise assassination by Hindus of domestic enemies of the Hindu nation" – a chilling reminder at a time when India has witnessed assassinations of rationalists such as Narendra Dabholkar, Govind Pansare and Gauri Lankesh by suspected Hindutva militants.

The quest for 'Akhand' Bharat

While it is not feasible, even for a government devoted to the Hindutva agenda, to officially proclaim 'Akhand Bharat', the concept enjoys wide discursive popularity, and continues to shape the sensibilities of Hindutva adherents. Therefore, it is useful to consider what SGE has to say on how Hindus can realise Akhand Bharat. Savarkar suggests a sequential approach: "[The real strategy...is first to make the newly won Bharat wholly their own. The fragments that were left in the foreign hands could be attended to later on!" As the author interprets it: "Hindutva power...must first be deployed toward terminating the demographic internationality present within the boundaries of the Indian state...we can reasonably infer that Savarkar implies reconversion of India's Muslims."

For Savarkar, "the dissolution of Indian Muslims within Indian society" simply follows from the pattern of past foreign aggressors, and it is with the realisation of Akhand Bharat that the Hindus would realise the seventh glorious epoch of their history. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's current position on 'Akhand Bharat' is unclear. Sections of the Parivar have maintained that it only signifies an imperative to unite all the world's Hindus culturally and spiritually. But the author argues that since it is not the cultural or spiritual/Brahminical register but the organicist one that determines the 'Savarkarite international', it doesn't have to be explicitly part of a policy agenda for it to be politically consequential.

The revocation of Jammu and Kashmir's autonomy and its bifurcation, the passing of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 that envisioned India as a homeland for non-Muslim refugees from the three Muslim states that geopolitically fall within the realm of 'Akhand Bharat', and "the unprecedented marginalisation of India's Muslims in recent years" all seem to suggest that even if one were to dismiss 'Akhand Bharat' as mere rhetoric, for the Savarkarite, it will always be much more, and for that reason, merits sustained attention.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

"Sir, Mr. M. Narayana Murthy of Shankarapuram wants to know how the 'g' in target is pronounced."

"It is pronounced like the 'g' in gate and give. The correct pronunciation of the word is 'tagit'. The 'a' is pronounced like the 'a' in park, part, dark and lark. The letter 'e' in 'target' is pronounced like the 'i' in bid, bit, fill, hill. The stress is on the first syllable. I hope I have made myself clear."

"Mr. A. Chandrashekaran of Thiruchirapalli wants to know the correct pronunciation of 'idol', sir"

"It is pronounced in the same way as 'idle'. There is no vowel between 'd' and 'i'. So it is pronounced 'idl'. The 'i' is pronounced like the 'i' in five, fight and right."

" 'According to me, he is a fool'. Is this sentence correct, sir?"

" 'According to' is used when you want to give the opinion of another person. You don't say, 'according to me he is a fool'. It is always according to somebody else or something.

According to the Prime Minister, the country will have a bright future.

According to the weather forecast, a storm will hit Nellore in the early hours of tomorrow.

When you want to refer to your view, you say 'In my opinion, he is a fool'.

In my opinion, they are doing well.

Also, 'according to' is not used with words like 'view' and 'opinion'. You don't say, 'According to his view, we are all fools'. It should be, 'In his view, we are all fools' or 'In his opinion, we are all fools'."

"Sir, several have asked me whether 'prepone' is an English word. Is it?"

"No. But a lot of people use this word in this country, but that does not make it acceptable. A native speaker would certainly understand what you mean but he won't use it."

"Sir, don't we have the freedom to coin words?"

"Of course, we have. But if each one starts taking liberties with the language in the name of freedom, the language will become unintelligible. Suppose, somebody says tomorrow 'I brang him home'. If you object, he might say that it is on the analogy of 'sing-sang' and 'ring-rang'. There will be endless confusion and the language we speak and write would be considered substandard. That is the problem. I will discuss this again in detail sometime later. It is getting late for you. You may go now."

"Thank you, sir. Goodbye."

"Goodbye."

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

On November 23, 1963, the first episode of the British sci-fi series *Doctor Who* aired, creating a milestone for many sci-fi shows to come. Here is a quiz on sci-fi shows

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1

In this series, an alien from the planet Melmac follows an amateur radio signal to Earth and crash-lands into the garage of the Tanner family. What is the name of the alien? Name the show.

QUESTION 2

In *Ben 10*, an American media franchise, Ben Tennyson acquires an alien device resembling a wristwatch, which contains DNA of different alien species. What is the name of the watch?

QUESTION 3

In *Doctor Who*, the Time Lord called the Doctor, an extraterrestrial being who appears to be human explores the universe in a time-traveling spaceship. What is the name of the ship? What does it look like?

QUESTION 4

In *Battlestar Galactica*, human civilization has extended to a group of planets known as the Twelve Colonies. Who are the main antagonists of the human race in the series?

QUESTION 5

Demogorgon is a demon associated with the underworld. In popular culture, a role-playing game and a sci-fi show have made use of this demon. Name the game and the show.

QUESTION 6

In this series, four anthropomorphic turtle brothers fight evil in America. Who are the four brothers named after? Name the show.

Visual question:
Identify this hand gesture. Name the popular sci-fi series associated with the gesture.

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. JFK was assassinated in this city by this man. **Ans: Dallas and Lee Harvey Oswald**
2. These two Pevensie siblings were the first to enter Narnia. **Ans: Edmund and Lucy**
3. The pen name of Eric Blair. **Ans: George Orwell**
4. JFK was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for this work. **Ans: *Profiles in Courage***
5. Abraham Zapruder achieved fame with respect to JFK for this reason. **Ans: His silent home movie is considered the most complete footage of the JFK assassination**
6. Apart from *Silent Planet*, these are the other books in Lewis's sci-fi trilogy. **Ans: *Perelandra* and *That Hideous Strength***
7. Disney paid Huxley to write a script based on this famous children's work. **Ans: Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland***
Visual: Name this band. **Ans: 'The Doors'**
Early Birds: Bhupen Choudhary| Kiran Gadakar| K. N. Viswanathan

Word of the day

Pedantic:
marked by a narrow focus on or display of learning especially its trivial aspects

Synonyms: scholastic, academic

Usage: *His essays are so pedantic that the main points of the issue get lost*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/pedanticpro

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Mechanic walks into police station, confesses to murder

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Police personnel at the Ramamurthy Nagar station were in for a shock, when a 32-year-old mechanic walked into the station on Tuesday, informing them that he had killed a man and wanted to surrender.

He led the police to his car which had the body of his victim, and also handed over an iron rod used in the crime.

The victim has been identified as Maheshappa.

The accused, Rajashekhar, a resident of Horamavu, and his mother Suvidha had allegedly paid ₹2 crore to the victim, after he promised to get them a huge loan.

Rajashekhar and Suvidha had borrowed loans from local moneylenders to give it to Maheshappa, but he had allegedly cheated them and escaped to Nanjangud, near Mysuru.

The mother and son had to sell their house to repay the moneylenders and were forced to live in Rajashekhar's father-in-law's house.

Two days ago, Rajashekhar went to Nanjanagud to track down Maheshappa. He got Maheshappa back to the city and tortured him demanding the money.

According to the police, Rajashekhar confessed that he hit Maheshappa with the rod to scare him and tortured him, but Maheshappa sustained serious injuries and died in the car.

From Page One

16-year-old girl dies in road accident

According to the police, Layashri and Yashwin usually took the school bus, but on Tuesday their mother offered to drop them off, since she was heading in the same direction.

While Ms. Priyadarshini and Yashwin fell on the safer side of the road, Layashri, who was not wearing a helmet, came under the front wheel of the bus and sustained severe head injuries.

The driver abandoned the bus and escaped. The K.R. Puram traffic police later tracked down the driver, identified as Mahendra D.N., 39, and arrested him.

Text & Context

A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (November 23, Wednesday), the following explainer is available:

- RBI's concerns on slow deposit growth
bit.ly/rbiconcerns

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access this article. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 23	
RISE 06:22	SET 17:50
RISE 05:31	SET 17:19
THURSDAY, NOV. 24	
RISE 06:22	SET 17:50
RISE 06:32	SET 18:13
FRIDAY, NOV. 25	
RISE 06:23	SET 17:50
RISE 07:38	SET 19:14

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	22
Mysuru	30	16
Bengaluru	24	19

Bengaluru Today
24°C The weather will be pleasant but humid. Night will be cool. Spell of light rain or thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
23°C A pleasant but humid weather to prevail. Night will be cool. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower with gusty winds will occur.

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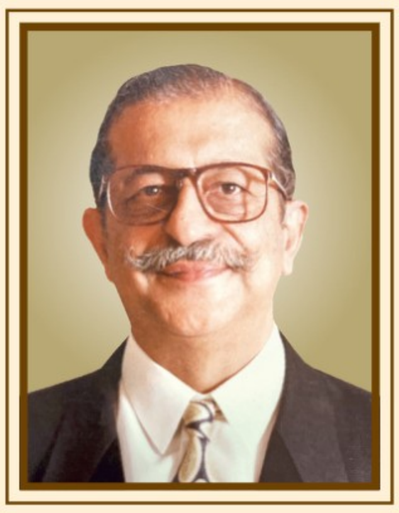

Shri Areez Pirojshah Khambatta
(22.09.1937 – 19.11.2022)

The Creator Of Rasna: Started India's original startup by creating the world famous "Rasna", a truly Make In India brand which today is quenching the thirst of millions in India and in 60 countries across the globe. Through his industrious efforts, thousands of jobs are generated directly and indirectly across India and development of fruit based products has helped millions of farmers across the country get better value for their crops.

A True Entrepreneur: He was honoured with the National Citizen's Award for outstanding contribution in the field of Commerce, by the President of India - Honorable Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma. He was awarded the President of India's Home Guard & Civil Defence Medal as well as the Paschimi Star, Samarseva & Sangram Medals. He was also chosen as the "First Outstanding Parsi" of Ahmedabad.

A Philanthropist: He was the Chairman of Areez Khambatta Benevolent Trust And Rasna Foundation which is involved in various projects in the sectors of health care, education, scholarship, etc. from which thousands of people have benefitted. He contributed immensely to Indian industry, business and most importantly societal development through social service, as the Commandant of Ahmedabad Home Guards & Civil Defence for 20 years.

Shri Khambatta was also the Founding Chairman of WAPIZ (World Alliance of Parsi Irani Zarthostis). He was the past President of Ahmedabad Parsi Panchayat, Vice President of the Federation of Parsi Zoroastrian Anjumans of India.

His Legacy: Shri Khambatta leaves behind his legacy to his wife Persis, children Piruz, Delna, Ruzan, his daughter-in-law Binaisha, and grandchildren Arzeen, Arzad, Avan, Areez, Feroza and Arnavaz to follow.

The family is committed to ensuring that his principles of duty to the country should always come first, then our religion and then following his ideals, be they about business or society, they will be engraved in the DNA of the family for generations to come.

Prayer Meet

Date: 23/11/2022 | Time: 10.00 am to 12.00 noon | Venue: Gujarat University Convention & Exhibition Centre, Conference Hall 2, Entry From Gate No. 3, 132 ft. Ring Road, Helmet Circle, Memnagar, Ahmedabad - 380052.

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Market Price ₹23
Apple Simla 1 kg ₹115
Market Price ₹135
Orange 1 kg ₹59
Market Price ₹65
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SHUT clinic at NIMHANS now has a digital detox helpline

People can call 9480829675 for help to come out of technology addiction

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

To help people come out of technology addiction, the Service for Healthy Use of Technology (SHUT) Clinic at NIMHANS has launched a digital detox helpline.

People can call 9480829675 and seek help, said Manoj Kumar Sharma, Professor at the Department of Clinical Psychology, who also heads SHUT Clinic.

"There are several studies linking frequent technology use and consistent social-media usage to heightened attention-deficit symptoms, lower self-esteem, social isolation, impaired emotional and social intelligence and disruption in sleep pattern. Children develop the 'fear of missing out something' when parents restrict their social media usage. Our helpline will provide assistance regarding all such issues and help people come out of it," Dr. Sharma told *The Hindu*.

NIMHANS Director Pratima Murthy said tech addiction is not just affecting personal and social relationships but also leading to several physical and mental health problems. Launched on November 3, the helpline currently operates only on Fridays between 9.30 a.m. and 1 p.m. as of now. "We are receiving over eight calls every Friday since the launch and all are adult callers. Soon, we plan to run the helpline all through the week," the doctor said.

Dr. Manoj said most of the callers are adults who are concerned about excessive use of mobile phones. "We also have some parents seeking help for their children who are hooked to their mobile phones, seeking help. The third category of callers is relating to those who are addicted to social media and watch pornography. Most do not want to visit our clinic and this helpline is for such people," Dr. Sharma said.

The doctor said: "We advise people to schedule time away from screens throughout the day and take periodic breaks from technology. We suggest physical activity and spending quality time with family to strike a balance between online and offline activities. We also provide psychological counseling".

Bangalore Literature Festival on December 3, 4

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The 11th edition of the Bangalore Literature Festival (BLF) is back to its full glory after a gap of two years. This year's edition will feature over 250 international and Indian, authors and speakers, four programme forums, and two children's venues.

The festival, which is one of the biggest literary events in the city, will be held on December 3 and 4 on the lawns of the Lalit Ashok Hotel on Kumara Krupa Road. Over 20,000 literary enthusiasts are expected to attend the festival, according to the organisers.

The last two years (2020 and 2021), BLF was held at Bangalore International Centre and was a low-key affair.

Many leading writers including 2022 Booker Prize Winners Geetanjali Shree and Shehan Karunatilaka, will be present this year.

BLF, in association with the bookstore Atta Galatta, will award the best of English fiction and non-fiction and Kannada writing with the BLF Book Prize. To commemorate the life of Puneeth Rajkumar, the venues have been named as Gandhadagudi, Raajakumara, and Yuvaratna, the organisers said. There is no entry fee for the event.

For more details long into bangaloreliteraturefestival.org.

THE HINDU
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This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client **Nasreen Taj W/o.Akthar** is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from RBL Bank Ltd; any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our clients shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Apartment bearing **No.TF-302** on the Third Floor, having a super built-up area of 1400 Square feet together with one reserved car park space bearing No TF-302 in the stilt floor of the Apartment building known as **"A.H.PRIDE"** located at Municipal Corporation No 316/13/1/8/. (Earlier forming the Northern and Southern portions of **Site No.8,** V.P.Khatha No.13/1, HL No.8, Home List No 8 of **Hennur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk),**

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants
Bangalore-43. M: 9845846428, 7204863700

TOWN MUNCIPAL COUNCIL, KUNIGAL, TUMKUR DISTRICT

☎:08132-221835 Website: http//:kunigaltown.gov.in@yahoo.in E mail:itstaff_ulb_kunigal@yahoo.co.in

Tender No:TMC/KUN/TECH/SFCSPL/CP/01/2022-23 Date: 17.11.2022

Tender Notice

Karnataka Public Procurement Ordinance 2000, Town Municipal Council Kunigal is hereby invited by the undersigned to tender through e-procurement for certain works under 2018-19 SFC Special Grant for Kunigal through e-procurement as per standard tender document. Eligible grade contractors registered with the Public Works Department can participate in the tender through the e-procurement portal. (https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)

DETAILS OF INDENT NUMBER ARE AS FOLLOW

Work Details	Estimate Cost in (LAKHS)	EMD	Reservation
DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT 140476	85.00	As per E-Procurement Portal	Others
DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT 140477	46.70		Reservation
DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT 140478	41.50		Reservation
DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT 140479	46.00		Reservation
DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT 140520	90.00		Others
DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT 140521	44.80		Others
DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT 141084	91.80		Others
DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT 141085	97.20		Others

Above Indent No Last date of submission of tender in e-portal: 05/12/2022 upto 17:00 hrs. Further information is obtained from the Technical Branch of this office.

Sd/-Shri Rangaswamy President TMC, Kunigal | **Sd/-**Sabana TabsumV.President TMC, Kunigal | **Sd/-**Shri SrinivasS.S.President TMC, Kunigal | **Sd/-** Shri P ShivaprasadChief Officer TMC, Kunigal

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my clients proposes to purchase the below mentioned property free from Encumbrances from **SRI.B.S. GANGADHARA CHARYA** S/o: Late.Sri.N.Veena Srikantachar, Age: 73 Years, R/at: No.10/1, Old No.10, 2nd Cross Road, 4th Main Road, Sampangirama Nagara, Bangalore-560027. The person/s having any objection for the proposed purchase or having any Right/ Interest or Title in the Schedule property may lodge their objection/s and or claim/s with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within **FIVE DAYS** from the date of this publication. The objection/s and or claim/s received thereafter shall not be binding on my client and my client will proceed to purchase the below mentioned Schedule property as if there are no claim/s and objection/s to complete the purchase.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable Property bearing No.10/1, Old No.10, (earlier Old No.511) situated at 2nd Cross Road, 4th Main Road, Sampangirama Nagar, Bangalore, presently comes under the limits of BBMP Ward No.110 (Old No. 77) and the concerned authority has assigned the PID No.77-7-10/1. **MEASURING : East to West :** 15 Feet and **North to South :** 30 Feet, Total Measuring: 450 Sq.Ft
BOUNDED on:
East by: House belongs to Sri. Hombaiah. **West by:** House belongs to Sri.R.Krishnappa's. **North by:** Road. **South by:** House belongs to Sri.Ramdasappa's. Built-up area 1200 Sq feet of residential house consists of Ground plus Two Floors with RCC Roof, Mosaic Flooring, Fabricated Fixtures, Neem Door & Windows along with basic amenities provided with Water & Electricity facilities.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 23-11-2022

B.RAVINDRA PRASAD, Advocate
Prasad Law Chambers
No.19, Vinayaka Circle, P.G.Halli II Main, Malleshwaram, Bangalore-560 003.
MB: 9880254424.

LEGAL NOTICE
COURT PUBLICATION

BEFORE THE SUB- COURT, KOLLAM
2022 OS 55
PLAINTIFF:
Baiju kumar. S, Madhava vilasam, Kottamkara, Chandanathope, Kollam
RESPONDENT
Shaji Yohannan Mathai, Nagarajappa Layout Elim-15, Narayanapuram, K.R. Puram, Duravani Nagar, Bangalore- 560016

Whereas the plaintiff has instituted a Suit against you. You are hereby Summoned to appear in this court- in person or by a pleader duly instructed on the 4th day of January 2023 at 11 am, the date of trial. Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day and the hour before mentioned the Suit will be heard and determined in your absence.
Dated This day of 2022
By order of the court
K.P Babu (council for the plaintiff)

PUBLIC NOTICE

VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of Membership Notice is hereby given that We, MIDAS INVESTMENT ADVISERS, engaged in the business as a SEBI & BASL Registered Investment adviser and holding a SEBI License No. INA200007724 and BASL License No. 1673 have decided to voluntarily surrender our Investment Advisory License. For any queries, clients may reach out to grievances@midasadvisors.in or can lodge their grievance on www.scores.gov.in

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I, SIVANI Mahpara Akthar, R/o No 184, BBMP No.5, 7th Cross, Near Wisdom Medical, 1st Stage, Pillanna Garden, Sagayapuram, St.Thomas Town Post, Bangalore-560084, Karnataka have changed my name to Mahpara vide affidavit dt: 21.11.2022 sworn before Notary C.Sharada, B'lore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **VASUDEVA K R**, (14545638XEx Hon Nb-Sub) S/o. Late. Raghavaiah K B, Aged about 58 years, residing at No.A4 4th Floor, Anugraha Manor Apartment PWD Main Road, B Narayanapura, Bangalore - 560 016, have changed my wife's name from **P C LEELAVATHI** to **LEELAVATHY P C** vide affidavit dated 17.11.2022 sworn to before V. Rajashekhara, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I, BEEBI John, W/o Mohammed Zameer Kaiwara, R/a 1st Block Kaiwara Hobali, Chintamani tq, have changed my name to Bibi Jan vide affidavit dt: 21.11.22 sworn before Notary Sreedevi.S, B'lore.

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BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bangalore - 560 020

No. BDA/EE(DSKL-1)/TEN/03/2022-23 Date : 22.11.2022

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) SHORT-TERM TENDER

(Through GoK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)

1. The Executive Engineer, DSKL Division-I, Bangalore Development Authority(BDA), Bengaluru, on behalf of the Commissioner, Bangalore Development Authority, Bengaluru, invites tenders from eligible tenderers, for the construction of works detailed in the Table. The tenderers may submit tenders for any or all the works given in the Table. Two Tender Document System as per Rule 28 of the KTPP Act shall be followed. The Tenderers are required simultaneously submit two separate electronic document, first containing the Earnest money deposit and the details of their capability to undertake the tender (as detailed in ITT Clause 2 and 3), which will be opened first and the second containing the price tender (as detailed in Section 4 and 9) which will be opened only if the Tenderer is found to be qualified to execute the tendered works. The Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the Instructions to Tenderers to qualify for award of the contract.
2. Tender documents shall be available for download free of cost from the date and time of publication of the tenders on the Government of Karnataka, Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in) till the last date and time or the extended time of submission specified on the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal. Interested tenderers may obtain further information at the Office of the Executive Engineer, DSKL Division-I, Room No. 413, B Block, 3rd floor, Bangalore Development Authority, T.Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru-560 020.
3. Tenders must be accompanied by Earnest Money Deposit and a non-refundable Tender processing fee specified for the work in the Table below. Earnest money deposit and Tender processing fee will have to be in any one of the forms as specified in the tender document.
4. Tenders must be uploaded on Government of Karnataka, Karnataka Public Procurement Portal https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or before the last date and time as detailed in para 9, so as to be received by the Employer and First Electronic Document will be opened on the date and time on the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal as detailed in para 9, without requiring the presence of tenderers or in the presence of Tenderers or in the presence of the Tenderers' representatives, who wish to attend at Office of the Executive Engineer, DSKL Division-I, Room No. 413, B Block, 3rd floor, Bangalore Development Authority, T.Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru-560 020. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the tenders as specified, the tenders will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
5. A Pre-tender meeting will be held on the time, date and address, as detailed in para 9 at Office of the Engineer Member, Bangalore Development Authority, T.Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru-560 020, to clarify the issues if any, and to answer questions on any matter that may be raised at that stage as stated in Clause 8.2 of 'Instructions to Tenderers' of the tender document.
6. The Rates quoted shall be exclusive of Goods and Service Tax (GST) (Except for electrical works), and is separately reimbursed by the Employer at the prevailing rates to the Contract amount as per the Government orders, and as amended from time to time. Reimbursement of GST is not applicable to electrical works for which bidder has to quote the rates inclusive of GST.
7. Other details can be seen in the tender documents.
8. For details, registration and e-payment visit Government of Karnataka, Karnataka Public Procurement Portal website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in or contact e-Procurement Helpdesk at 080- 46010000 / 68948777.

TABLE

Sl. No.	Name of work	Approximate value of work (Rs.in Crores)	EMD (Rs.in Crores)	Tender processing fee (Rs.)	Period of completion
1	Contract-1 : Formation of Sites and Construction of Roads, Road side drains, Cross Drainage works, Storm Water Drains, Rain Water Harvesting, Protection works including Utilities (Water Supply, UGD and Electrical Works) Development for Dr K. Shivarama Karantha Layout, Sector-1, Bengaluru.	262.00	2.62	Refer to the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal	18 Months including monsoon period
2	Contract-3 : Formation of Sites and Construction of Roads, Road side drains, Cross Drainage works, Storm Water Drains, Rain Water Harvesting, Protection works including Utilities (Water Supply, UGD and Electrical Works) Development for Dr K. Shivarama Karantha Layout, Sector-3, Bengaluru.	220.54	2.21	Refer to the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal	18 Months including monsoon period
3	Contract-4 : Formation of Sites and Construction of Roads, Road side drains, Cross Drainage works, Storm Water Drains, Rain Water Harvesting, Protection works including Utilities (Water Supply, UGD and Electrical Works) Development for Dr K. Shivarama Karantha Layout, Sector-4, Bengaluru.	207.78	2.08	Refer to the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal	18 Months including monsoon period
4	Contract-5 : Formation of Sites and Construction of Roads, Road side drains, Cross Drainage works, Storm Water Drains, Rain Water Harvesting, Protection works including Utilities (Water Supply, UGD and Electrical Works) Development for Dr K. Shivarama Karantha Layout, Sector-5, Bengaluru.	267.86	2.68	Refer to the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal	18 Months including monsoon period
5	Contract-6 : Formation of Sites and Construction of Roads, Road side drains, Cross Drainage works, Storm Water Drains, Rain Water Harvesting, Protection works including Utilities (Water Supply, UGD and Electrical Works) Development for Dr K. Shivarama Karantha Layout, Sector-6, Bengaluru.	249.62	2.50	Refer to the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal	18 Months including monsoon period

9. Following shall be the calendar of events for tendering:

(1) Downloading of tender document: **23.11.2022. (2)** Last date and time for receipt of queries: **25.11.2022 upto 16.00 hrs. (3)** Date and time of pre-tender meeting: **28.11.2022 at 11.00 hrs. (4)** Place of Pre-tender meeting: **Office of the Engineer Member, BDA, T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumarapark West, Bengaluru-560020. (5)** Last date and time for receipt of tender: **01.12.2022 up to 16.00 hrs. (6)** Time and date of opening of first electronic document (Technical bid): **03.12.2022 at 16.30 Hrs. (7)** Place of opening of first electronic document (Technical bid): **Office of the Executive Engineer DSKL Division-I, BDA, T.Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru-560020. (8)** Time and date of opening of second Electronic document (Financial bid): **Will be intimated to the qualified tenderers. (9)** Place of opening of second electronic doument (Financial Bid): **Will be intimated to the qualified tenderers.**

BDA/PRO/TN/26/2022-23 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, DSKL Division-I, BDA, Bengaluru.**

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Government of Assam

Celebration of 400th Birth Anniversary of

LACHIT BARPHUKAN

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Venue: Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
Date: November 23 - 25, 2022

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

November 23, 2022

Inauguration of Exhibition

Chief Guest
Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman
Hon'ble Minister of Finance and Hon'ble Minister of Corporate Affairs, Government of India
Venue:
Ground Floor, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi

Panel Discussion

Topic: The Ahom Saga of Hope, Skills and Courage
Hall No.-6, 2nd Floor, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi

Cultural Evening

Chief Guest
Shri Kiren Rijiju
Hon'ble Minister of Law and Justice, Government of India
Venue:
Sunder Nursery, City Park, Nizamuddin, New Delhi

November 24, 2022

Panel Discussion

Topic: Ignored Historiography of Assam's Assertion
Hall No.-6, 2nd Floor, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi

Plenary Session of the 400th Birth Anniversary of Lachit Barphukan

Chief Guest
Shri Amit Shah
Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs and Hon'ble Minister of Cooperation, Government of India

Venue:
Plenary Hall, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi

November 25, 2022

Valedictory Function of the 400th Birth Anniversary of Lachit Barphukan

Chief Guest
Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India
Venue:
Plenary Hall, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi

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INBRIEF

5.86 lakh differently abled people get UDID cards

Karnataka has achieved a milestone by distributing 5.86 lakh Unique Disability Identification Cards (UDID), said Health and Medical Education Minister K. Sudhakar on Tuesday. After reviewing the progress of the UDID card distribution in the State, the Minister said the cards are issued by the government to differently abled people to allow them to avail of several government benefits. "Karnataka has done well in UDID distribution for the disabled in collaboration with the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. Ramanagaram district has the highest number of cards distributed. Chikkamagaluru is in the second position, followed by Bagalkot, Haveri, Uttara Kannada, Belagavi, and Mandya districts," he said.

After the amendment of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act of 2016, 21 types of disabilities were included in the list that had only seven types of impairments.

Bommai offers bagina at Vani Vilas Sagar

Regular water flow will be ensured to the Vani Vilas Sagar water grid henceforth, promised Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai after offering bagina to the waterbody at Hiriyur in Chitradurga district on Tuesday. He said Vani Vilas Sagar had filled to the brim after 88 years.

A scheme had been evolved to link this to the Upper Bhadra project and provide drip irrigation facilities to the fields situated in low-lying areas, he said. The impounded water could be used for irrigation purposes in Chitradurga, Tumakuru, and Davangere areas, the Chief Minister said.

Cooker bomb was likely rigged with matchsticks, cracker powder: Police

Mohammed Shariq was self-radicalised, influenced by IS, and probably rigged the bomb guided by do-it-yourself videos, say officers; the police are now looking at leads to establish funding for him

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

The cooker bomb that went off accidentally in an autorickshaw in Mangaluru on November 19 was "very rudimentary, rigged from materials available at home seeing YouTube videos". Matchsticks and firecrackers are suspected to have been the main source of the explosive material for the bomb, according to the preliminary forensic analysis.

The analysis has indicated the presence of potassium chlorate (usually present in a matchstick) and cracker powder, a senior police officer in the know said. The police have recovered 150 matchboxes, sulphur powder, and gunpowder from the house the alleged bomber Mohammed Shariq stayed in, in Mysuru. There was a time delay mechanism of a washing machine commonly available in the market, used in the bomb.

"The bomb was so rudimentary and amateur that when it went off, the fire first probably emerged from the nozzle of the cooker. Not even the lid was blown off," said a senior officer.

Looking for clues: Police inspecting the autorickshaw in which a blast occurred in Mangaluru. FILE PHOTO

Though Shariq was radicalised and highly influenced by Islamic State (IS), he is unlikely to have had any direct contact with anyone in the global terror organisation, sources said. "He was probably a lone wolf, especially after he went on the run in September 2022, after two of his associates were arrested. He is known to be associated with Abdul Matheen Taha, an accused in the self-styled IS-inspired Al-Hind terror module case. Taha has better expertise in bomb-making, which is also not visible in the bomb rigged in the cooker," a senior official said.

Local group

There seems to be a local group of radicalised youth influenced by IS – Taha, Arafat Ali, Shariq, Maaz Muneer Ahmed, and Syed Yasin – in Tirthahalli that has emerged. Of them, only Taha is allegedly a member of Al-Hind, which allegedly aimed to establish an IS province in the jungles of South India. The rest do not have any direct contact even with the Al-Hind module, said the police.

"These youths are mostly self-radicalised via the Internet. There are many closed groups on Telegram and several other encrypted messaging platforms where those associated with Islamic State or even those across the border with an IS front push propaganda material and do-it-yourself (DIY) videos of bombs and explosives. Videos on how to make a bike bomb and cooker bomb have been recovered from Shariq's phone. The handlers of the groups do not give explosives, logistics or funds. Radicalised youths end up carrying out amateur acts like the one in Mangaluru," a senior intelligence officer said.

Source of funding

Meanwhile, the police are now looking at leads to establish funding for Shariq for making the bomb. "When he was arrested in 2020 in the pro-terror graffiti case, a lot of money was raised for his legal fight and to treat his ailing father who had cancer. His mobile phone also has records of a few mid-range transactions. We are probing whether he was in touch with Taha and Ali and whether they or anyone else funded him," a senior official said.

CM: Govt. 'seriously' laying claim for inclusion of Jath taluk in Karnataka

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Basavaraj Bommai

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday said a team of senior advocates, including Mukul Rohtagi, Shyam Divan, and Uday Holla, had been formed and the government was "seriously" laying claim on the inclusion of Jath taluk in Maharashtra, in Karnataka.

Meanwhile, officials of the Law, Kannada and Culture and DPAR held a meeting on Tuesday to chalk out the State government's line of argument before the Supreme Court, which would up come up for hearing on Wednesday.

Mr. Bommai's scheduled meeting with advocates on Tuesday evening was cancelled following his delayed return to Bengaluru from a programme in Chitradurga district.

Speaking to reporters here in the morning, Mr. Bommai said that the government had come up with programmes to provide water to Jath taluk in Sangli district, which was drought-prone. All 40 gram panchayats in the taluk had resolved that the Jath taluk should join Karnataka.

"We are seriously considering this," Mr. Bommai said. The taluk, comprising 40 gram panchayats, had passed a resolution stating the Maharashtra government's inability to provide them water and they were being treated unfairly and that they wanted to join Karnataka, Mr Bommai said. The government had also decided to give special grants to Kannada schools in Maharashtra through the Karnataka Border Area Development Authority.

"And, Kannadigas living in Maharashtra who fought in the freedom struggle, unification movement, and the liberation of Goa will be given pension. We're collecting necessary documents," he explained.

Maharashtra has, on linguistic grounds, laid claim on Belagavi, a part of the erstwhile Bombay Presidency which is currently an integral part of Karnataka.

The team has met two or three times and decided what should be their line of argument in the border row.

HC: It is 'heartware' that has to take care of pensioners' interest in banks even in digital age

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

It is "heartware" which has to take care of pensioners' interest to ensure that pension amount is credited to their accounts properly and they are not made to run from pillar to post even in this digital age, managed through the computer screens controlled by the software and the hardware, said the High Court of Karnataka.

"Heartware" is persons who handle the accounts of the pensioners and transfer the monthly pension to the accounts using computer system, the court said.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna made these observations while admonishing officials of a nationalised bank, which has failed to rectify excess family pension amount credited to the account of a 62-year-old widow for the past six years, blocked her accounts repeatedly, and made her run from pillar to post since 2016, forcing her to move the court.

The court directed the bank not to recover ₹2.4 lakh credited in excess to her account from more than 10 years from her, but to recover the amount from the bank officials responsible for such mismanagement. The officials had not only failed to rectify the excess amount credited way back in 2016, despite her request, and failed to redress her grievance.

In 2004-05

Petitioner Nalini Devi started receiving the family pension in 2004-05 after the death of her husband, who was working as a second division assistant in the Police Department. She received the full pension that her husband would have gotten on his superannuation till 2011 as her husband would have retired in 2011. From 2012, she was eligible only for normal family pension.

Account blocked

However, both the government and erstwhile SyndicateBank continued to credit the full pension amount to her account till 2016, when her account was blocked and she was informed by the bank that she cannot operate the account till ₹50,000 credited in excess was recovered.

Neither the bank nor the pension authority acted on her request made in 2016 to debit ₹50,000 if credited in excess. Meanwhile, the bank was merged with Canara Bank. In 2021, Canara Bank blocked her account stating that ₹2.34 lakh was credited in excess to her account.

Her plea to set right the anomalies and allow her to withdraw her monthly pension by recovering excess pension in instalments fell on deaf ears of even higher officers of the bank.

"It is always the folly of the officers who handle such accounts, who either do not act properly or display lackadaisical attitude towards the problems of its customers even if brought to their notice, particularly, in matters concerning pension. Officers who display such remissness should not be tolerated," the court observed.

Initiate action

The court asked the bank to initiate action against officials concerned.

Voter data 'theft': One more held

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Halasuru Gate police on Tuesday arrested Lokesh K.M., who allegedly coordinated the survey by the Chilume Educational Cultural and Rural Development Trust.

Lokesh, who was close to the prime accused, Ravi Kumar, was looking after the administration of the trust and and was supervising the survey.

According to the police, he was responsible for getting ID cards illegally. He is the sixth person arrested in the case, so far, linked to the trust. Lokesh has been taken into custody to ascertain how exactly he procured the ID cards and the possible nexus with the Revenue officials, who are in the dock.

BJP complains to ECI against Congress

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

'Chilume Educational Cultural and Rural Development Trust was roped in to add and delete voters from the electoral rolls in 2017'

The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which has come under fire over the alleged irregularities by Chilume Educational Cultural and Rural Development Trust in a fraudulent voter survey, has now written to the Election Commission of India seeking action against the Congress and the former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the case.

N. Ravi Kumar, MLC and general secretary, BJP Karnataka, in a letter to the ECI has alleged that while the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) had roped in Chilume trust only to conduct a voter awareness drive and FIRs had been registered over alleged violation of these conditions, the non-governmental organisation (NGO) was roped in to add and delete voters from the electoral rolls in 2017.

Terming it an interference into the domain of the ECI, the BJP has now demanded action against the Congress and Mr. Siddaramaiah, who was Chief Minister then. The complaint also alleges that the Congress was "threatening and holding to ransom the ongoing electoral rolls revision by the ECI with their bogus allegations".

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (Project Central-2), 3rd Floor, Annexe-2 Building, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.

No: EE/PC-2/TEND/10/2022-23 Date: 22-11-2022

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer (Project Central-2), BBMP invites Short Term Proposals (Technical and Financial) for Appointing Consultant for Consultancy Services including Proof Checking for Construction Supervision, Preparation of Working Drawings, Project Management and Quality Control for the works detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	EMD (in Rupees)
1	Consultancy Services for Construction Supervision, Project Management and Quality Control for the work of "Providing White Topping to 5th Block, 1st Stage, 8th Main Road from Govt. Multispecialty Hospital to 1st Cross upto Karnataka Bank & Nagavara Main Road Gas Bunk 5th Cross Road from ORR to BWSSB GLSR upto 1st Main Road in Sarvagna Nagara Assembly Constituency."	Rs. 40000/- (Through E-Procurement Portal)

Calendar of Events: **1)** Request for Proposal (RFP) Document may be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 23-11-2022. 2)** Last Date for Receipt of Queries is **28-11-2022 upto 17.30 Hrs. in e-Portal. 3)** Date of Pre Bid Meeting on **29-11-2022 at 16.00 Hrs. at the Office of the Chief Engineer (Project Central), Annex-3 Building, 4th Floor, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002. 4)** Last Date for Submission of Proposals: **02-12-2022 upto 17.30 Hrs. 5)** Date of Opening of Technical Proposals: **05-12-2022 after 16.00 Hrs.** Further details can be had from the above office

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project Central-2, BBMP.

PAY DEVELOPMENT CHARGES, HELP TO DEVELOP BENGALURU

Department of Health & Family Welfare
KARNATAKA STATE AIDS PREVENTION SOCIETY
Arogya Soudha, 4th Floor, 1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bangalore-560023
Tel: 080-29557021. E-mail : pdksaps@gmail.com

Ref No.KSAPS/JD(F)/01/2017-18 (P) Date: 22-11-2022

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Expression of Interest is invited from CAG empanelled Chartered Accountant firms to conduct Audit of Accounts of NGO's/CBO's, website: **https://ksaps.karnataka.gov.in** to be seen for additional details. Last date for submission of EOI on dt: 23/12/2022 at 5.30 p.m.

Sd/-
Project Director
DIPR/VCPL/3192/2022-23 Karnataka State AIDs Prevention Society, Bangalore.

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer, BTM Layout Division, BBMP Commercial Complex, 2nd Floor, Lashkar Hosur Road, Adugodi, Bengaluru-560 030.

No.E.E/(BTM)/Ae/e-proc/14/2022-23 Date: 22-11-2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) Call-1
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal Only)

Tenders for the following works on item rate basis are invited by the undersigned for the works mentioned below from the registered contractors of BBMP or any reputed Agencies, equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES or any State Govt. Organisation for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approximate value of work (₹. in Lakhs)	EMD (in ₹.)
1.	Additional Developmental Works to Gallary and other improvements works to Munichinnappa School Ground in Ward No.188, Lakkasandra.	99.00	198000/-
2.	Providing and Improvements of Cobble Stone, Asphalting, CC Roads and Drains and Footpath with other imrpvoements in Balajinagara, Bharathi Layout, Bhavani Nagara, Venkateshwara Layout, Bhovi Colony, Tavarekere, Maddurammanagara, Krishnamurthy Layout, Chikallakshmaiah Layout, Mahalingeshwara Layout and Surrounding area in Ward No.189 S.G. Palya.	99.00	198000/-
3.	Providing Open Gym Equipments in Police Quarters in Ward No.189 S.G.Palya.	55.00	110000/-
4.	Improvements to Roads, Drains and Footpath at Tavarekere 2nd Cross, 3rd Cross, Channamma Layout and Surrounding area in Ward No.190, Madiwala.	99.00	198000/-
5.	Asphalting to Roads at 4th Betalian Gate Entrance and connecting Road in KSRP 4th Betalian in Ward No.191, Jakkasandra.	57.00	114000/-
6.	Improvements to Roads, Drains and Footpath at Bank Colony, Manjunatha Layout, Jaibheemnagara and Surrounding areas in Ward No.192, BTM Layout.	90.00	180000/-
7.	Providing Additional Grill Work over Compound Wall, Gate with Arch to Tax Office Building and other allied works to Carmel School Ground in Ward No173, Jakkasandra.	60.00	120000/-

Calendar of Events: (1) Last Date for uploading the Filled Tender Document is : **09-12-2022 up to 4:00 p.m. (2)** Pre-bid meeting will be held on **03-12-2022 at 3:00 p.m. (3)** Date of Opening of the tender document on : **12-12-2022 at 4:30 p.m.** Further particulars can be obtained from the above office during working hours on working days or from **website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-, Executive Engineer, BTM Layout Division, BBMP.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of the general public that, my client **Mr. K. P Mohan Kumar**, has negotiated and agreed to purchase the property mentioned in the Schedule here below from its owner **Smt. Narayanamma** D/o. Appajappa, of Kodihalli Village, Jadigenahalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase in any manner whatsoever or having any right in the Schedule Property may lodge their objection and /or claims with the under signed along with the supporting documentary evidence within **15 days** from the date of this publication, and objections and /or claims received thereafter will not be binding on my client and my client will proceed to complete the Sale process of the Schedule Property deeming that there is /are no claim/s or objection/s to the same.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the land measuring 3 Acres 30 Guntas and 14 Guntas of kharab in Sy.No.26 of Kodihalli Village, Jadigenahalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on the; **East by :** Land of Thammanna; **West by :** Road; **North by:** Land of Gowramma; **South by:** Land of Appanna.

NARASIMHAMURTHY A.S, Advocate
No.31, 5th Cross, 23rd Main,
J.P.Nagar, 7th Phase, Bangalore. **Bangalore, Dt: 22.11.2022**
Mob: No.9886434287

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

V. Kasinathan (85), Retired Foreman (Non-Supervisory), Composing Dept, The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 22-11-2022. Address: S-2, F Block, Haresh Saffron, Gandhi Nagar, First Street Extension, Old Perungalathur, Chennai- 600063. Ct: 90947 17955

KABIRDAS MADHAVAN
(04 MAY 1969 - 22 NOVEMBER 2022)

"It's a new dawn. It's a new day.
It's a new life. For me.
And I'm feeling good..."

These lines from a favourite song sum up Kabir's indefatigable spirit in life and in death. A loving husband, caring father, doting brother, and generous friend, he will be loved, cherished and celebrated forever.

Mrinalini, Devika, Malavika
Family and Friends
98800 26691

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

SECOND ANNIVERSARY

SHANTHA CHAKRAPANI

We will miss your love
and guidance everyday

Sons: C.Vijayanand,
C.Vijayram
and Family members

CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury presenting the award to N. Ram, Director of The Hindu Publishing Group, on Tuesday. S. MAHINSHA

N. Ram gets award for outstanding journalism

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Communist Party of India (Marxist) general secretary Sitaram Yechury has accused the BJP-led Central government of projecting a sense of false consciousness in order to conceal the hard realities of escalating poverty, unemployment and price rise that have affected the country.

Mr. Yechury was delivering the P. Govinda Pillai commemorative address on the occasion of the 10th death anniversary of the Marxist ideologue. He presented the P. Govinda Pillai National Award 2022 to N. Ram, Director of The Hindu Publishing Group, for outstanding journalism.

Emphasising the challenges facing journalism, Mr. Ram felt there was a need to "rediscover" value in journalism at a time "when a Hindutva authoritarian regime dominated Indian politics."

Forest Range Officer killed by Gutti Koya tribals in Telangana

Challamalla Srinivas was murdered with axes and sickles over alleged encroachment of land in Errabodu forest; the FRO was trying to prevent a group of local tribal people from removing saplings in a plantation raised by the Forest Department

The Hindu Bureau
BHADRADRI KOTHAGUDEM

A Forest Range Officer (FRO) was brutally killed allegedly by a group of Gutti Koya Adivasis with axes and sickles over a "podu land" (encroachments on forest lands) issue in the Errabodu forests in Chandrugonda mandal of Telangana's Bhadradri Kothagudem district on Tuesday.

According to sources, Chandrugonda FRO Challamalla Srinivas Rao, 42, who suffered multiple deep stab injuries on his neck and chest in the gruesome attack by an irate mob of migrant tribal people, succumbed to the injuries at a hospital in Khammam.

The incident took place on Tuesday morning when Srinivas Rao along with his staff rushed to Bendalapadu tribal habitation to prevent an alleged attempt by a group of local tribal people to remove saplings in a plantation raised by the Forest Department in Errabodu forest area.

The migrant tribals, who claimed themselves as 'podu cultivators', allegedly chased the FRO for a few metres before attacking him with sickles and axes. The staff, who accompanied the FRO, ran helter-skelter to save their lives.

Challamalla Srinivas Rao

The assailants fled from the spot, leaving the critically injured FRO in a pool of blood near the incident site, sources added.

The forest staff rushed him to the Primary Health Centre in Chandrugonda from there to a multi-speciality hospital in Khammam, where he died.

There were several incidents of skirmishes between the forest staff and a section of tribal farmers in the remote tribal pockets of the district in recent weeks where the latter put up stiff resistance to the 'attempts' by the forest department personnel from raising plantations in what the aggrieved tribals termed as "podu lands."

The Errabodu incident comes at a time when a survey of "podu lands" is under way in the forest fringe areas across the State as part of the State government's initiative to find a permanent solution to the long pending 'podu lands' issue.

The slain officer received several awards for his commendable services in protecting forests from encroachments during his career spanning more than 18 years, a forest officer of Khammam district recalled.

Tamil Nadu gets its first biodiversity heritage site

The Hindu Bureau
MADURAI

The Tamil Nadu government on Tuesday issued a notification declaring Arittapatti and Meenakshipuram villages in Madurai district the first biodiversity heritage site in the State.

The site, comprising 139.63 hectares in Arittapatti village (in Melur taluk) and 53.58 hectares in Meenakshipuram village (Madurai East taluk), will be known as the Arittapatti Biodiversity Heritage Site, said a notification. Arittapatti, known for its ecological and historical significance, houses around 250 species of birds, including three important raptors – the Laggar Falcon, the Shaheen Falcon and Bonelli's Eagle. It is also home to wildlife such as the Indian pangolin, slender loris and pythons.

Several megalithic structures, rock-cut temples, Tamil Brahmi inscriptions and Jain beds add to the historical significance of the region. G. MOORTHY

The area is surrounded by a chain of seven hillocks, or inselbergs, that serve as a watershed, charging "72 lakes, 200 natural springs and three check-dams", the notification said.

The Anaikondan tank, built during the reign of the Pandiyan kings in the 16th Century, is among them. Several megalithic structures, rock-cut temples, Tamil Brahmi inscriptions and Jain beds add to the historical significance of the region.

District Forest Officer S. Gurusamy Dabbala said that notifying an area as a biodiversity heritage site would help in protecting its rich and exclusive ecosystem. "Through the steps to be initiated by the Forest Department, factors that may harm the biodiversity will be kept at bay."

To prevent the loss of biodiversity and preserve the cultural and architectural heritage of the bygone times, the government, as recommended by the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board, has declared Arittapatti a biodiversity heritage site.

An order issued by Supriya Sahu, Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Forests and Climate Change, said the declaration had been made under Section 37 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Squally weather (wind speed reaching 30-40 kmph gusting to 50 kmph) is likely to prevail over westcentral, southwest Bay of Bengal and along & off south Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Gulf of Mannar and north Sri Lanka coasts

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	29.5	15.3	Kozhikode	—	33.4	22.8
Ahmedabad	—	31.6	14.0	Kurnool	—	33.0	21.8
Aizawl	—	—	14.5	Lucknow	—	28.1	13.0
Allahabad	—	29.5	12.6	Madurai	—	34.0	22.2
Bengaluru	0.2	24.1	19.2	Mangaluru	—	31.1	20.6
Bhopal	—	—	11.1	Mumbai	—	32.0	17.0
Bhubaneswar	—	31.0	19.7	Mysuru	—	30.0	15.6
Chandigarh	—	26.8	10.5	New Delhi	—	26.5	9.4
Chennai	2	27.3	22.3	Patna	—	27.7	13.8
Coimbatore	—	31.0	20.2	Port Blair	1	31.8	24.2
Dehradun	—	27.3	10.4	Puducherry	6.4	28.8	21.0
Gangtok	—	17.3	8.8	Pune	—	30.4	13.9
Goa	—	30.0	21.0	Raipur	—	30.5	15.9
Guwahati	—	29.4	15.5	Ranchi	—	27.8	12.1
Hubballi	—	27.0	21.0	Shillong	—	21.2	8.5
Hyderabad	—	30.2	20.5	Shimla	—	19.4	7.6
Imphal	—	28.0	10.7	Srinagar	—	15.0	0.2
Jaipur	—	27.3	12.4	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.2	22.5
Kochi	—	30.2	23.8	Tiruchi	—	31.7	21.6
Kohima	—	22.8	9.5	Vijayawada	0.9	29.6	21.4
Kolkata	—	28.5	19.3	Visakhapatnam	—	30.0	25.8

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.49	119	...8	...110	...114	
Bengaluru	...7	..15	.75	86	98	
Chennai	.12	..38	.40	99	88	
Delhi	.18	..21	.23	...347	...278	
Hyderabad	...7	5	.32	...256	...131	
Kolkata	.14	..20	.32	...205	...143	
Lucknow	.15	..55	.44	...218	...151	
Mumbai	.73	152	100	...255	...149	
Pune	...6	..11	.43	30	29	
Visakhapatnam	.31	..43	.30	98	...108	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Motihari, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 413 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 21

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ರಾಮನಗರ
ರಾಮನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ – 562 159.
ದೂ.: 080–27271286. ಇಮೇಲ್: itstaff_ulb_ramanagaram@yahoo.com
ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: www.ramanagaracity.mrc.gov.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ನಸರಾ/ತಾ.ವಿ./ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ. ಎಸ್‌ಪಿಎಲ್/ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಸಿ.ಆರ್./04/2022–23
ದಿನಾಂಕ : 19–11–2022

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

(ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1999–2000 ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಆಕ್ಟ್ 2000 ರ ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್‌ನ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ರಾಮನಗರ ನಗರಸಭಾ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2021–22 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ. ವಿಶೇಷ ಅನುದಾನ ಹಾಗೂ 2022–23 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ನಗರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿಯ ಶೇ. 7.25 ಮತ್ತು ಶೇ. 5ರ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಒಟ್ಟು 05 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 375.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು, ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 2.50 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳನ್ನು ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿರುವ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ದಿನಾಂಕ : 05–12–2022 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ರೊಳಗಾಗಿ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿರುವಂತೆ (Technical Qualification Criteria) ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಅಗತ್ಯ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಶಾಖೆಯಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಹಾಗೂ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಅಧೀಕೃತ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ : www.gamanagaracity.mrc.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಹ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ನಗರಸಭೆ, ರಾಮನಗರ.
ಸಹಿ/– ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು, ನಗರಸಭೆ, ರಾಮನಗರ.
ಡಿಐಪಿಆರ್/ರಾಮನಗರ/349/ಮಗೆಶಾಲ್/2022–23

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
KNNL, Shiggaon Lift Irrigation Division, K.C.D.Circle ,
Behind Ganapati Temple,Dasanakoppa Main Road , Dharwad-580 001.
E-mail id: eesliddwd@gmail.com Ph No. 0836-2461218

No. KNNL/SLID/DWD/PB/4701-Samudaybhavan/Tender/2022-23/1120 Dt:19-11-2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH "e-Procurement" ONLY)

On behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bengaluru , Percentage tenders are invited in Two cover system from eligible tenderers by the undersigned, for the work of 40 No's of Construction of Samuday Bhavan under 8 Packages (Tender amount minimum **Rs.50.44** Lakhs & maximum **Rs.88.30 Lakhs**) under head of A/c 4701- M & MI –Shiggaon/Savanur LIS through e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka. The blank tender documents can be obtained through website **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** from **25/11/2022 @ 11.00** a.m. onwards and the completed e-tendering documents can be submitted up to **12/12/2022 @ 4.00** p.m. The Technical bids will be opened on **13/12/2022 @ 4.30** p.m. The financial bid will be opened on **15/12/2022 @ 11.00 a.m.**

Any Addendum/Corrigendum shall be published in the e-Procurement portal only. The undersigned reserves the right to postpone, accept, reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Sd/- S.K.KULKARNI
Executive Engineer,
DIPR/DWD/770/2022-23/DESHPANDEPUBLICITY **KNNL, SLI DIVISION, DHARWAD**

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE
Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao Road, Nagarabhavi P.O. Bengaluru-560 072. www.isec.ac.in

NOTICE

1. The 50th Annual General Body Meeting of the Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bengaluru will be held on **Saturday, the December 17, 2022 at 10.30 a.m.**
2. His Excellency, the Honourable Governor of Karnataka and the President of the ISEC Society, Shri Thaawar Chand Gehlot ji has kindly consented to preside over the meeting.
3. All the members of ISEC society are cordially invited to participate in this Annual General Body Meeting and occupy their seat by 10.15 a.m. sharp.
4. The members are requested to confirm their participation by email / phone / other modes for making necessary arrangements at the earliest.

ISEC-22322

November 22, 2022

S. Ashok Rao, Registrar, *registrar@isec.ac.in*
Mobile: 9844508507 Landline: 080 23217011

Government of Karnataka
CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER, ALAND
(WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT)

No. CDPOA/EST/AMAMASE/DIPAPRA/2022-23 Date : 19-11-2022

MOFIDIFICATION / ADDITION TENDER NOTIFICATION

e-Tender was invited by this office vide Tender Notice No.: CDPOA/WCDD/ICDS/Egg/Tender/2022-23 Date: 07.11.2022 for supply eggs to Anganwadi's and modifications have been made to eligibility Sl. No. 6, 8 9 and Sl. No. 14 has been included. Tenderers interested in participating should view these in e-tender portal and for further information should contact the office of the Child Development Project Officer, Aland during office hours.

Sd/- Child Development Project Officer,
Aland, D: Kalaburagi.
DIP/Kalaburagi/867/MC&A/2022-23

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
DISTRICT URBAN DEVELOPMENT CELL
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
AND DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, VIJAYAPUR
Phone No:08352-259855 Email: dudc_bjp@yahoo.co.in

No: DUDC-5/Nagarothana-4/CR-1/2022-23 Dated:17.11.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Deputy Commissioner, Vijayapur District, Vijayapur invites Chief Minister Amrut Nagarothana (Municipality) Phase-4 Fund Project work tender in Two cover system using KW-4 Documents for KPWD Registered Class-I contractors and detailed as below:-

1. Description of work : Urban Infra Structure works (Building Works) For the Urban Local Body of Sindagi TMC Limits Package-01 under Amrutha Nagarothana (Municipality) Phase-4 Project Indent No DMA/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT 141297 **Amount put to tender Rs. 151.38 Lakhs. Earnest Money Deposit Rs. 2.27 Lakhs. Work Completion Period: 9 Months.**

Contractors who wish to participate in tender can download and submit the tenders through e-Procurement portal at www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. For any clarification contact EE / AEE on working hours at office. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:

1) Tender Pre-Bid Meeting Date: **24.11.2022 at 11.00 am 2)** Last Date for Submission of Tender: 03.12.2022 up to 17.00 hrs. **3)** Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids): **05.12.2022 after 17.15 hrs. 4)** Date of Opening of Tenders (Financial Bids): **15.12.2022 at 11.00 am afterwards.**

Postponement of calendar of events (if any) is only through e-Procurement portal and will not be published In newspapers.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
District Urban Development Cell, Vijayapur
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/586/ಎಂಸಿಎ/2022–23

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No:SEE/EE/Tr/W&M/DVG/AEE-1/F-114/22-23/Cys-87
Date:22.11.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-Procurement Mode Only)

E-Tenders are invited in the prescribed form from Reputed Electrical Contractor possessing Super Grade Electrical Contractor Lincense on **Partial Turnkey Basis** for the following works:

(1) Bid Enquiry No.KPTCL/SEE/Tr/W&M)/DVG/EE(O)/AEE-1/22-23/27/Call-2/Dt:14.11.2022. **For replacement of age old S&S 11KV MCVCB Switch gears by new one at 66/11KV MUSS Davanagere in TL&SS Division, Davanagere.**

(2) Bid Enquiry No.KPTCL/SEE/Tr/W&M)/DVG/EE(O)/AEE-1/22-23/44/Dt:10.11.2022. **For replacement of 02 Nos of age old 11KV MEI breakers of F-13 & F-14 by new PCVCBs at 66/11KV MUSS Guttur in 400/220KV Receiving station Guttur Division.**

(3) Bid Enquiry No.KPTCL/SEE/Tr/W&M)/DVG/EE(O)/AEE-1/22-23/26/Call-2/Dt:14.11.2022. **For Providing new 01 number 11KV PCVCB breaker at 66/11 KV MUSS Kadajji in TL&SS Division, KPTCL, Davanagere for bifurcating Y-operated IP feeders.**

(4) Bid Enquiry No.KPTCL/SEE/Tr/W&M)/DVG/EE(O)AEE-1/22-23/39/Call-2/Dt:14.11.2022. **For replacement of age old 02 No's of Pneumatic CGL make 66 KV Breakers by new 66KV, 1250A, 40KA, SF6 Circuit Breakers with Spring type operating Mechanism CG Power and Industrial Solution Ltd make 66KV Breakers for 66/11kV Power Transformer-1 and Power Transformer-2 at 66/11kV MUSS AVARAGERE in TL&SS Division, Davanagere.**

For further details prospective bidders are advised to log on to website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** & click on to hyperlink **e-Procurement-kptcl** to participate in e-Procurement portal **on or after 23.11.2022**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, (Ele.),
Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL,
Near Stadium, Hadadi Road, Davanagere.

District Urban Development Cell. Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Davangere Dist.

No:DUDC(2)CR/1012 /2018-19 Dated:04-11-2022

RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through GOK E-Procurement Portal Only) TWO COVER SYSTEM
INDENT No: DUDC(2)CR/1012/2018-19/Call-3

(1) Deputy Commissioner, Davanagere District, Davanagere invites tenders from eligible Bidders/group of entities (the "Consortium") registered with registrar of companies (ROC) under the companies act 1965/2013 or registered with PWD/ Electrical inspectorate or registration need for firms or shall be registered with government of India or State government or its undertakings or any State Government Organizations for the work detailed in the table below. The tenderers may submit tenders for works given in the table through e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka (Viz https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in). The Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in clause 3 of the Instructions to Tenderers to qualify for award of the contract as per standard bidding document uploaded in e-procurement portal. (2) Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka from 07-11-2022 on Wards. (3) Tenders must be accompanies by Earnest Money Deposit specified for the work in the table below. earnest money deposit will have to be in any one of the forms as specified in the Tender document and shall have to be valid for a minimum of 60 days beyond the validity of the tender. (4) Other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Name of the work:- Implementation of Energy Efficiency Project for streetlights by replacement of existing conventional lamps with LED lamps along with Centralized Control & Monitoring System (CCMS) in ULB's (Harihara CMC, Channagiri TMC, Malebennuru TMC, Honnalli TMC & Jagalure TP) in Davanagere District through PPP Mode. Estimate Amount:- 16.23 Crores EMD (in lakhs):- Refer e-Procurement Portal. Cost of Tender Document:- As per e-Procurement Portal
Period of Complet:- 8 months (including monsoon Period) and operation and maintenance for seven years.

Note: (1) corrigendum/addendums if any, will be published in e-procurement portal only and no separate paper notification will be published. (2) Before submission of bids, bidders must ensure that scanned copies of all the necessary documents have been attached with bid. (3) All the required information required for Bids must be filled and submit online. (4) for more details, registration and e-payment visit GOK e-procurement website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in (5) If any clarification required please contact DUDC, Room No.22, D.C. Office Davanagere Ph:08192-251168.

ವಾಸಾಇ/ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ/623/ಎಂಸಿಎ/2022–23

Sd/- Deputy Commissioner,
Davanagere District, Davanagere.

District Health and Family Welfare Society
National Health Mission
District Health and Family Welfare officer Office, Mysuru District, Mysuru
Email: dhomysuru@gmail.com Tel No: 0821-2443178
No: DSU/CPHC-UHC/MY/ 91 /2022-23 Date:18.11.2022

CORRIGENDUM

ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ:ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:2022–23 ಹೆಚ್‌ಎಫ್‌ಡಬ್ಲೂ/ಎನ್ ಹೆಚ್ ಎಂ/ಸಿಪಿ ಹೆಚ್ ಪಿ–ಯುಹೆಚ್‌ಪಿ/ಸಆಅ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ/20/2022–23 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15/11/2022

The District Health and Family Welfare Societies under National Health Mission had invited online applications for 13 Community Health Officer Posts on **27.10.2022.** The last date for receipt of application was **08.11.2022.** Based on the request of the candidates, the date has been extended to **25.11.2022.** For further details logon to: **http://www.karnataka.gov.in/hfw**

Note: Any corrigendum(s) / clarifications and related information to the recruitment shall be published in the above website.

Sd/-District Health and Family Welfare officer
DIPR/DDMYS/MCA/693/2022-23

Office of the Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation & Ground water Development, Division, Shimoga.

SECTION 1 -INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDERS KW-3

IFT No.: 25/2022-23 Dated:21.11.2022,

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation & Ground water Development Division, Shimoga invites tenders in Standard Bid Document K/W-3 through e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka, viz.,http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from eligible contractors for 02 works coming under Shimoga sub-division amounting from Rs. 60.00 lakhs. To 75.00 Lakhs. Period of downloading tender documents from e-procurement portal: From 22.11.2022 to 05.12.2022 upto 16:00hrs. Tender opening date at 16:30 hrs on 06.12.2022 Any other details may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours on all working days. Details published on the e-procurement website @ http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in are final.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, M.I & G.W.D. Division, Shimoga.
DIPR/smg/No.124/11/mca/22-23/1296

Persisting issues

Further tightening up of protections is imperative in draft Data protection Bill

A new draft of the much-awaited data protection Bill, the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill (DPDP Bill) 2022, is now open for public comments. The Government had previously withdrawn an earlier draft by averring that it would come up with a "comprehensive legal framework" on data privacy and Internet regulation, and this draft seems to be a standalone attempt at bettering its previous iterations. There are only 30 clauses, for simplicity, but resulting in aspects of privacy protections remaining underclarified. A case in point is how clauses define the need for consent from data principals for data fiduciaries to process their personal data. Now, a notice is to be provided for the consent of the data principal, and the withdrawal of consent should allow for fiduciaries to remove any such data stored or is to be shared with others. The new draft, unlike the 2018 version, does not refer to key data protection principles such as collection limitation – obligations on the data fiduciaries to collect only such personal data that is required for the purpose of processing. It also does not include obligations on data fiduciaries to inform principals about data sharing recipients, duration of storage, etc. Thus, the comprehensive protection to data principals in the form of the information provided on their personal data and processing by data fiduciaries, is now missing. It does, however, include a crucial clause on fiduciaries notifying principals and the data protection authority about breaches in stored data.

The new draft proposes the establishment of a Data Protection Board of India, whose strength and composition, the process of selection, etc. will be prescribed by the Union government. As with the earlier versions, this diverges from the Srikrishna Committee Draft which allowed for judicial oversight in the selection process of the data protection authority. It is a concern that the proposed board will not have sufficient independence from the Union government; the state is also a data fiduciary which collects vast amounts of individual data. The 2018 Bill allowed for exemptions to be granted to state institutions from acquiring informed consent from data principals or to process their data in the case of matters related only to the "security of the state", and also called for a law to provide for parliamentary oversight and judicial approval of non-consensual access to personal data. But the new draft Bill continues the wide-ranging and vaguely worded exemptions and instruments, allowing for the executive to collect information which could amount to mass surveillance. Public scrutiny notwithstanding, Parliament should work towards tightening the provisions in the data protection Bill and providing for a robust data protection law.

Strategy to save

The National Suicide Prevention Strategy must percolate to every district

The best first step towards addressing a malaise is to recognise that it exists. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's recently published National Suicide Prevention Strategy fits right there. It has been a long time coming, but the Strategy, finally in the public realm, calls attention to the massive burden of suicides in the country, and initiates steps to achieve a reduction in suicide mortality by 10% by 2030. At the same time, it has measured the paces forward with a time-bound action plan that takes into account the grim realities of a varying ground situation in India. The problem is indeed dire, and without targeted intervention programmes, and stigma reduction strategies, a public health crisis of gargantuan proportions is imminent. Globally, suicide is the second leading cause of death among 15-29-year-olds and also the second leading cause of death for females aged 15-19 years, as per WHO estimates. In India, more than one lakh lives are lost every year to suicide. In the past three years, the suicide rate has increased from 10.2 to 11.3 per 1,00,000 population. As per National Crime Records Bureau statistics, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Karnataka have the highest percentage share of suicides (2018-2020), ranging between 8% to 11%. The most common reasons include family problems and illnesses, while other causes include marital conflicts, love affairs, bankruptcy, substance abuse and dependence. Further, in approximately 10% of cases, the cause for suicide remains unknown. Importantly, the document notes that contrary to belief, the majority of suicides are preventable.

The Strategy is etched with evidence-based practices to reduce the number of suicides, inspired by WHO's strategy for the South East Asian region, and strings together multiple sectoral collaborations to provide a cohesive strategy and achieve the intended reduction in the number of suicides. In addition to committing to establishing effective surveillance mechanisms within the next three years, and psychiatric outpatient departments in all districts over five years, the Strategy also intends to write in mental health in the curriculum in educational institutions within the next eight years. Addressing issues relevant to India, including access to pesticides, and alcoholism, has set the Strategy on the path towards achievement of the goals. It is, however, incumbent on the Government to stay the course until the targets are achieved. Of course, in a federal country, any success is possible only if States are enthusiastic participants in the roll out.

The 'India pole' in international politics

"Whose side is India on?" is one foundational question that constantly confronts practitioners, thinkers and commentators of India's foreign policy. The ongoing war in Ukraine on the one hand and the confrontation between Russia (India's traditional partner) and the United States and the West (also India's partners) on the other have increased the frequency/regularity of this question. So whose side is India on, after all? Is India with Russia or with the U.S./the West in this war? The problem with these rather unidimensional questions is that they habitually assume that there are just a few select sides in world politics, and India is not a side with any geopolitical agency of major consequence. Notably, India gets asked "Whose side are you on?" far more than China does, for China is viewed as a side.

When great powers seek India's support during geopolitical contestations, such as the one over Ukraine, they end up facing a stubborn India that is reluctant to toe the line. The inherent reason behind Indian reluctance, however, is not stubbornness but a sense of self which views itself as a pole in the international system, and not as a satellite state or a camp follower. India refuses to take sides because it views itself as a side whose interests are not accounted for by other camps or poles.

Some reflections on 'India as a pole' is perhaps appropriate at a time when India assumes the chair of the G20 and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), two institutions that are geopolitically significant today.

Happymon Jacob

teaches at the School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and is the founder of Council for Strategic and Defence Research

New Delhi detests falling in line and those who wish to work with India on the global stage must learn to deal with 'India as a partner' rather than 'India as a cheerleader'

India *is* 'a side'

Indian policymakers, notwithstanding the relative material incapacity of the state, inherently think of themselves as a pole in the international system. New Delhi's constant exhortations of a multipolar world are also very much in tune with this thinking about itself as a pole in a multipolar world.

There is a rich history to it. The origins of this thought can be found in the character of the country's long struggle for independence; the pre and post-Independence articulations of leaders such as Jawaharlal Nehru, Gandhiji, and Bal Gangadhar Tilak among others on international politics; the (not uncontested) primacy India inherited as the legatee state of the British empire in South Asia; India's larger than life civilisational sense of self; and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) experiment, have all contributed to India's desire for a unique foreign policy identity and a voice in the comity of nations. For much of its modern independent history, India's foreign policy has been a unique experiment. It has had its pitfalls, and has led to foreign policy mistakes, but that does not take away from its unique sense of external agency. Modern India's largely endogenous moorings have lent themselves to the self-assumed identity of a unique pole in a multipolar world. Herein lies the origin of a modern state which refuses to be led by another pole or easily aligned to one, but sees itself as a pole instead.

Historically, India's view of itself as a pole is evident in the manner in which it used to pursue non-alignment for several decades after Independence. Some vestiges of this continue to inform India's foreign policy to this day. It is also important to point out that India's non-alignment is often misunderstood given that a number of foreign commentators and practitioners interpret it as neutrality. For India, however, non-alignment is not neutrality, but the ability to take a position on a given issue on a case-by-case basis.

What it entails

What does being a pole mean for India? The classical view of polarity is one of domination of the international system by the great powers, the balances of power by them, and alliance-building based on ideology or distribution of power for the purposes of such balancing. India, however, has a different view of itself as a pole. It has not actively sought to dominate the South Asian regional subsystem even when it could (even though it occasionally and reluctantly intervened, but often with disastrous consequences); its balancing behaviour has been subpar, it has refused to build alliances in the classical sense of the term, or sought camp followers or allegiances. As a matter of fact, even its occasional balancing behaviour (for instance, the 1971 India-Soviet Treaty during the Bangladesh war) was contingent on emergencies.

If India's idea of being a pole in the international system is not strictly governed by the classical understanding, what indeed are the various elements of India's idea of being a pole? For one, and to be fair, it does believe it has a strategic periphery in South Asia where it has a natural claim to primacy. Two, it discourages interference by other powers in that space. Three, it often tends to speak for 'underprivileged collectives', physical (South Asia) or otherwise (NAM, developing nations, global south, etc. in varying degrees); and it welcomes the rule of law and regional order. India's historical focus on the region has been more of a provider of common goods than as a rule setter or/of demander of allegiance. Could one say, without nationalistic overindulgence, that India's idea of being a pole is deeply entrenched in a normative framework? Perhaps.

What the world ought to know

If the above is a complicated but reasonably accurate description of India's sense of its place in the world, those seeking to win India over to one camp or another must note that New Delhi detests falling in line. India's recent or past statements on issues of global importance – be it Ukraine or Iraq, or the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's aerial campaign in Serbia, or bringing climate change to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) – indicate that it tends to take positions that not just suit its interests but are also informed by its sense of being a unique player on the global stage. This is key to understanding India's external behaviour.

Notwithstanding the geopolitical difficulties that India faces today, India is a pivotal power in the Indo-Pacific and beyond, with an ability to help tackle security, climate and other challenges of global consequence. Western powers must, therefore, treat India as a partner rather than as a cheerleader. They should mainstream India into global institutions such as the UNSC, and consult India rather than dictate to India which side to take. The question to ask India is not "whose side are you on?" but "what is your side?".

As India becomes the chair of the G20 and the SCO in 2022, it will further seek to assert itself as a major pole in the international system, and dissuade demands to follow one camp or another. Therefore, those wishing to work with India on the global stage must learn to deal with the 'India pole'.

Think local climate action, think Meenangadi

If India has to achieve the set of goals enunciated in the 'Panchamrit' resolution of the COP26 climate summit in Glasgow 2021, it is necessary that panchayati raj institutions, the third tier of government which are closest to the people are involved. Although international and national policies have been formulated with large-scale investments, it is necessary to have a suitable local action plan for implementation and enforcement, initiated and coordinated by local governments. In the context of greater devolution that has taken place, panchayats, as local governments, can play a pivotal role in tackling many of the causes and effects of climate change.

Over the past few decades, there has been a manyfold increase in the number of climate-related national disasters. Much of India's population still lives in the rural areas and is involved in agriculture and other agri-based activities. The greater variability in rainfall and temperatures, etc. experienced of late has directly affected the livelihood and well-being of millions of rural households. India's National Action Plan on Climate Change 2008 identifies a range of priority areas for coordinated intervention at the national and State levels. However, there would have been better results had panchayati raj institutions been given a greater role. Through the ongoing decentralisation process which ensures people's participation, panchayats can play a crucial and frontline role in coordinating effective responses to climate risks, enabling adaptation and building climate-change resilient communities.

Rekha Yadav

who was Joint Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India till recently, is now Divisional Railway Manager, North Eastern Railway

With rural households among the most vulnerable to climate change effects, panchayats, as local governments, can play a pivotal role in tackling many of the causes and consequences of global warming

Carbon neutrality projects across India

The climate change discussion also focuses on the emerging and widely accepted concept of 'carbon neutrality' which puts forth the notion of zero carbon developments, nature conservation, food, energy and seeds sufficiency, and economic development. As human activities are the cause of the current climate crisis, mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to growing and extreme weather events are critical. Zero carbon development which promotes sustainable living is the effective solution to reducing anthropogenic emissions and improving climate resilience.

In recent years, many panchayats have come forward with the concept of carbon neutrality, a prominent example being Meenangadi gram panchayat in Kerala's Wayanad district, which serves as a model to emulate. In 2016, the panchayat envisaged a project called 'Carbon neutral Meenangadi', the aim being to transform Meenangadi into a state of carbon neutrality. There were campaigns, classes and studies to begin with. An awareness programme was conducted initially. A greenhouse gases emission inventory was also prepared. The panchayat was found to be carbon positive. An action plan was prepared by organising gram sabha meetings. Socio-economic surveys and energy-use mapping were also carried out. Several multi sector schemes were implemented to reduce emissions, increase carbon sequestration, and preserve the ecology and bio-diversity. 'Tree banking' was one of landmark schemes introduced to aid carbon neutral activities which encouraged the planting of more trees by extending interest-free loans. Interestingly 1,58,816 trees were planted which have also been geo-tagged to monitor their growth. The entire community was involved in the process, with school students, youth, and technical and academic institutions given different assignments. Five years have passed and the changes are visible. Local economic development was another thrust area where LED bulb manufacturing and related micro-enterprises were initiated.

There is also the example of Palli gram panchayat in Jammu and Kashmir that has followed the same people-centric model, with specific local activities. The panchayat has prepared a climate-resilient plan where villagers have been made aware of climate change Mitigation factors such as reducing energy consumption, cutting down on the use of fossil fuels, the use of solar energy, abandoning plastics and promoting plantation and water conservation measures were given prominence. Bio-gas plants and solar panels were also introduced. A solar plant (500KW) has been installed to power 340 households. A Gram Panchayat Development Plan for 2022-23 is being prepared by integrating a climate-resilient plan.

There are many other panchayats that have also initiated carbon neutral programmes. In Seechewal gram panchayat, the Kali Bein river was rejuvenated with people's involvement. Odanthurai panchayat in Tamil Nadu has its own windmill (350 KW). Tikekarwadi gram panchayat in Maharashtra is well known for its extensive use of biogas plants and green energy production. Chapparapadavu gram panchayat in Kerala has several green islands that have been nurtured by the community. Many more panchayats are coming forward in this regard.

The 'Clean and Green Village' theme

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has focused its attention on localising the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on a thematic basis. 'Clean and Green Village' has been identified as the fifth theme where panchayats can take up activities on natural resource management, biodiversity protection, waste management and afforestation activities. According to the latest data, 1,09,135 gram panchayats have prioritised 'Clean & Green Village' as one of their focus areas for 2022-23.The Ministry has highlighted the need for the documentation of best practices and for wider dissemination. The net result is that many panchayats are coming forward with their eco plans. The integrated Panchayat Development Plan prepared by all panchayats is a stepping stone towards addressing many of the environmental concerns of villages.

In today's age of rapid technological advancements and digital transformation, India's rural local bodies are silently contributing their strength to ensuring the global target of carbon neutrality, as envisaged in the UN conference on climate change.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Terror in the south

In the context of the "terror" incidents in Coimbatore and Mangaluru, the Karnataka police statement, that the accused was influenced by a global terror organisation, creates the perception that this terror group has begun establishing a broad and dangerous base. Unless there is a thorough probe, the Prime Minister's advice to other nations to fight terrorism is meaningless. For terrorism, there should be no financial support and also humanitarian considerations, as seen in the release of the convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case.

D. Sethuraman,
Chennai

There could be links between the Mangaluru and Coimbatore blasts. The intention seems to have been to disrupt the tranquillity in the South. What is needed is an in-depth and quick investigation.

Muhammed Jaseel P.T.,
Velluvangad, Malappuram, Kerala

Equality and Constitution

The Editorial page article, "The dissenting judgment versus the razing of equality" (November 22), points to the violation of the 'basic structure' of the Constitution (Article 15) on the central value of equality, and placed in perspective the dissenting judgment in the recent EWS case. A spokesperson of the ruling party, while hailing the majority judgment, claimed that India has shaken off many caste distinctions and exclusions, and argued that reservation must not become 'a monopoly of the few'. But it is common knowledge and fact that these sections are not the few but the majority of the total workforce, and they are still the most deprived and discriminated against in Indian society.

Vasantha Surya,
Bengaluru

Double decker buses

Planners need to keep urban commuters in mind and introduce double decker buses to cater to the needs of a growing population. People having to wait for hours and board packed buses have become a common sight.

Sahasra Nivriti Vislesha,
Secunderabad

Mumbai getting India's first electric double-decker bus is also a model that would work well in a city like Chennai. The Government of Tamil Nadu must consider such a bus for the betterment of public transport services.

Avvai R. Sriramkumar,
Chennai

Vande Bharat Express

When there is already a superfast train, the Shatabdi Express, between Mysuru and Chennai, and several other fast trains as well, why introduce another train, the Vande Bharat Express, on the same route? Many prefer road travel. Instead, the Shatabdi could be made to run faster and more executive chair cars attached to the other trains. Further, a new train can be run between Mysuru and Tiruchi or Madurai.

G. Padmanabhan,
Bengaluru

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

A Bill protecting state surveillance

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The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology released the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022, on November 18. The journey towards a data protection legislation began in 2011 when the Department of Personnel and Training initiated discussions on the Right to Privacy Bill, 2011. As per an Office Memorandum dated September 29, 2011, the then Attorney General, Goolam Vahanvati, opined that conditions under which the government can carry out "interception of communication" should be spelt out in the Bill. This opinion was also echoed by the Group of Experts on Privacy, headed by Justice A.P. Shah, in 2012. The report of the group emphasised the need to examine the impact of the increased collection of citizen information by the government on the right to privacy. Since then, civil society organisations, lawyers and politicians have consistently demanded surveillance reform, highlighting how personal data can only be protected when the government's power to conduct surveillance of citizens is meaningfully regulated. However, like its predecessors, the latest Bill also fails to confront India's growth into a surveillance society.

The surveillance architecture

The surveillance architecture in India comprises mainly of Section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885; Section 69 of the Information Technology Act, 2000; and the procedural rules promulgated under them. But this architecture does not meaningfully define the grounds under which, or the manner in which, surveillance may be conducted. It also does not contain safeguards such as ex-ante or ex-post facto independent review of interception directions. The concentration of power with the executive thus creates a lack of accountability and enables abuse. Evidence for this emerges not only from instances of political surveillance, but also from the slivers of transparency that accidentally emerge from telecom companies. For instance, submissions by Airtel to the Telecommunications Department, as part of the public consultation process for the Indian Telecommunication Bill, reveal that excessive data collection requests are already a reality. Airtel has asked the government to share the costs it incurs to comply with the increasing demands from law enforcement agencies to carry out surveillance.

Apart from outright surveillance, unfettered collection and processing of citizen data for other purposes, such as digital governance, raise concerns. Agitation over the nature of the surveillance architecture was voiced by the Supreme Court in its right to privacy decision in 2017 and by the Justice B.N. Srikrishna Committee in 2018. However, all iterations of the data protection legislation since – the draft Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019, the draft Data Protection Bill, 2021 and the 2022 Bill – have no proposals for surveillance reform. Worse, personal data can be processed even without the person's consent.

Blanket exemptions

Like previous iterations, Clause 18(2) of the 2022 Bill allows the Union government to provide blanket exemptions for selected government agencies. However, this Bill is more egregious than previous iterations as it permits exemption to private sector entities that may include individual companies or a class of them, by assessing the volume and nature of personal data under Clause 18(3). Comparative legal regimes, which, as per the explanatory note, were considered before proposing the Bill, do not contain comparable provisions. Such blanket exemptions to state agencies, let alone private corporations, are absent in foreign legislations. While the existing or proposed legislations in the European Union and in the U.S. permit security agencies to claim exemptions on a case-by-case basis, depending on why they are collecting personal data, they do not contain blanket exemption powers to an entire government entity. Further, other jurisdictions exercise meaningful oversight over state surveillance. For instance, the Investigatory Powers Tribunal in the U.K. is authorised to hear complaints against misuse of surveillance powers and can impose monetary penalties in case of a breach. Under the new Bill in India, exempted state agencies and private entities will not be within the purview of the Data Protection Board, the body responsible for imposing penalties in case fiduciaries infringe privacy.

Interestingly, the explanatory note accompanying the Bill elaborates on the seven principles it seeks to promote, including transparency, purpose limitation, data minimisation, and preventing the unauthorised collection of personal data. But when matched against the actual provisions, the Bill appears to serve a rhetorical value. This can also be noticed by the government's refusal to share statistical data on the number of surveillance orders issued yearly, thereby hampering any meaningful transparency. Further, in direct violation of purpose limitation, inter-departmental sharing of data is not only allowed, but encouraged by draft policies such as the draft National Data Governance Framework Policy, 2022, facilitating the creation of comprehensive profiles of citizens. In addition, provisions of other legislation, such as the Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022, which allows for overzealous collection and storage of biometric data for 75 years, are in direct contrast with the principles of data minimisation and prevention of unauthorised collection of personal data.

The preamble to the 2022 Bill states that the purpose is to protect the personal data of individuals and ensure that personal data is processed only for lawful purposes. Unfortunately, by choosing to protect state surveillance, the new Bill fails to fulfil its mandate of protecting the right to privacy of citizens.

The Digital Personal Data Protection Bill fails to fulfil its mandate of protecting the right to privacy of citizens

The Tamil nationalist paradox

Firebrand Tamil nationalism is on the wane in Tamil Nadu

STATE OF PLAY

Udhav Naig
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The campaign for the release of seven convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case was nearly the fulcrum for various Tamil nationalist parties, leaders and organisations in Tamil Nadu. And yet, the success of these efforts after years seems to have taken the edge off the politics of these parties, given the mixed public reaction to the release of the convicts.

The six convicts released this month did not receive the warm welcome that the first of the freed convicts, A.G. Perarivalan, received from Chief Minister M.K. Stalin in May. Clearly, the strong criticism that Mr. Stalin faced then, from his allies and sections of the civil society, tempered his response this time. Leaders of both the DMK and the AIADMK claimed credit for the release of the convicts, but desisted from celebratory public appearances with them.

Soon after the release of the convicts, Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi (VCK)'s Vanni Arasu was seen feeding sweets to one of them, for which he faced public censure. VCK founder and Chidambaram MP Thol. Thirumavalavan also recently met one of the convicts, Ravichandran, at the party office. When asked by a TV channel whether he thought this was morally appropriate, he said, "It will not give such a wrong message. I don't believe he is a culprit... Actually, he was victimised by law and bureaucrats."

Reactions seem to indicate that people believed the political call for the release of the convicts after nearly three decades in jail on humanitarian grounds as being morally justifiable, but not the celebration

of the convicts. While it could be argued that Perarivalan, who went to jail at a young age and over whose guilt there were doubts cast by no less than a member of the investigation team, received genuine support from various political circles and sections of the public for his release, the same cannot be said for the other six convicts.

The impact of Tamil nationalist parties was pronounced in Tamil Nadu throughout the civil war in Sri Lanka. These parties were instrumental in changing the narrative in the State after 2009, the year the war ended, as successive governments began supporting the demands of the Tamil minorities in Sri Lanka. However, the Tamil nationalist space has been shrinking ever since mainstream Dravidian parties, the Left, Dalit parties and smaller players began to find themselves on the same page on the question of addressing core Tamil nationalist demands. These include demanding an international independent investigation into the war crimes by the Sri Lankan armed forces and the release of the seven convicts. The demand for a referendum on a separate Tamil Eelam also had support among most mainstream parties.

While Tamil nationalist organisations have identified with one of the two mainstream Dravidian parties, the Seeman-led Naam Tamilar Katchi (NTK), which has always contested alone, seems to have had an impact on young voters. Mr. Seeman's politics is about defining the primary contradiction in Tamil Nadu as one between Tamils, the majority linguistic group, and 'Other' minority 'non-Tamil' groups. Mr. Seeman has sought to position the NTK as the only 'Tamil' party that cares about Tamil interests. He posits former LTTE chief Velupillai Prabhakaran as the party's guiding force and argues that only a leader with Tamil origins and a truly 'Tamil nationalist' party, as opposed to Dravidian parties with "non-Tamil roots", has the legitimacy to wield political power in the State.

Despite facing opposition from other Tamil nationalist groups for espousing a version of Tamil nationalism that posits non-Tamils as 'Others' in Tamil Nadu, the NTK has a vote share of 6.8%. Its critics argue that Tamil nationalism should be 'inclusive' and not alienate oppressed non-Tamil speaking communities; and that an 'exclusionary' Tamil nationalism can only be compared to the RSS's brand of politics. To this, Mr. Seeman has responded, "Anyone can live in Tamil Nadu, but only a Tamil must rule".

With the BJP attempting to find a footing in the State, Tamil nationalist parties cannot be concerned only with the demands of Tamil minorities in Sri Lanka; they will also have to fight for federalism within India and for the protection and assertion of Tamil cultural identity, among other things. Despite taking progressive decisions such as giving more tickets to Scheduled Castes, religious minorities and linguistic minorities in elections, the NTK has still not won a seat and will face a litmus test in 2024. In a sense, that will also be the litmus test for Tamil nationalism as a political way of life in the State.

China's new COVID-19 cases near its pandemic peak

The biweekly change in infections stood at 562% in China, the highest among all countries

DATA POINT

Agencies

With daily cases zooming past the 25,000-mark and with a few COVID-19-related deaths in Beijing, alarm bells are ringing in China. Only a few weeks ago, the ruling Communist Party of China promised to reduce disruptions caused by its 'zero-COVID' policy, which calls for mass testing, lockdowns and quarantining of close contacts to eliminate outbreaks in the shortest possible time. But the latest wave of cases is prompting major cities, including the capital, to close off populous districts, shut stores and offices, and order factories to isolate their workforce from outside contact. This has fuelled fear that a downturn in Chinese business activity might hurt the already weak global trade.

China's infection numbers are lower than those of the U.S. and other major countries. But the ruling party is sticking to zero-COVID, even as other governments are increasingly relaxing travel and other controls in an attempt to live with the virus. On Tuesday, China reported 28,127 new cases, discovered in the previous 24 hours, including 25,902 cases with no symptoms. Almost one-third of the cases (9,022) were found in the Guangdong province, adjacent to Hong Kong.

China's economic growth rose 3.9% in the July-September quarter year-on-year, buoyed by the manufacturing sector. But there are challenges. In October, retail spending shrank by 0.5% from a year earlier, as cities re-imposed anti-virus controls. Imports fell in October, a reverse from September's rise. Exports, too, shrank after American and European consumer demand was depressed by unusually large interest rate increases by the U.S. Federal Reserve and other central banks to cool inflation that is at multi-decade highs.

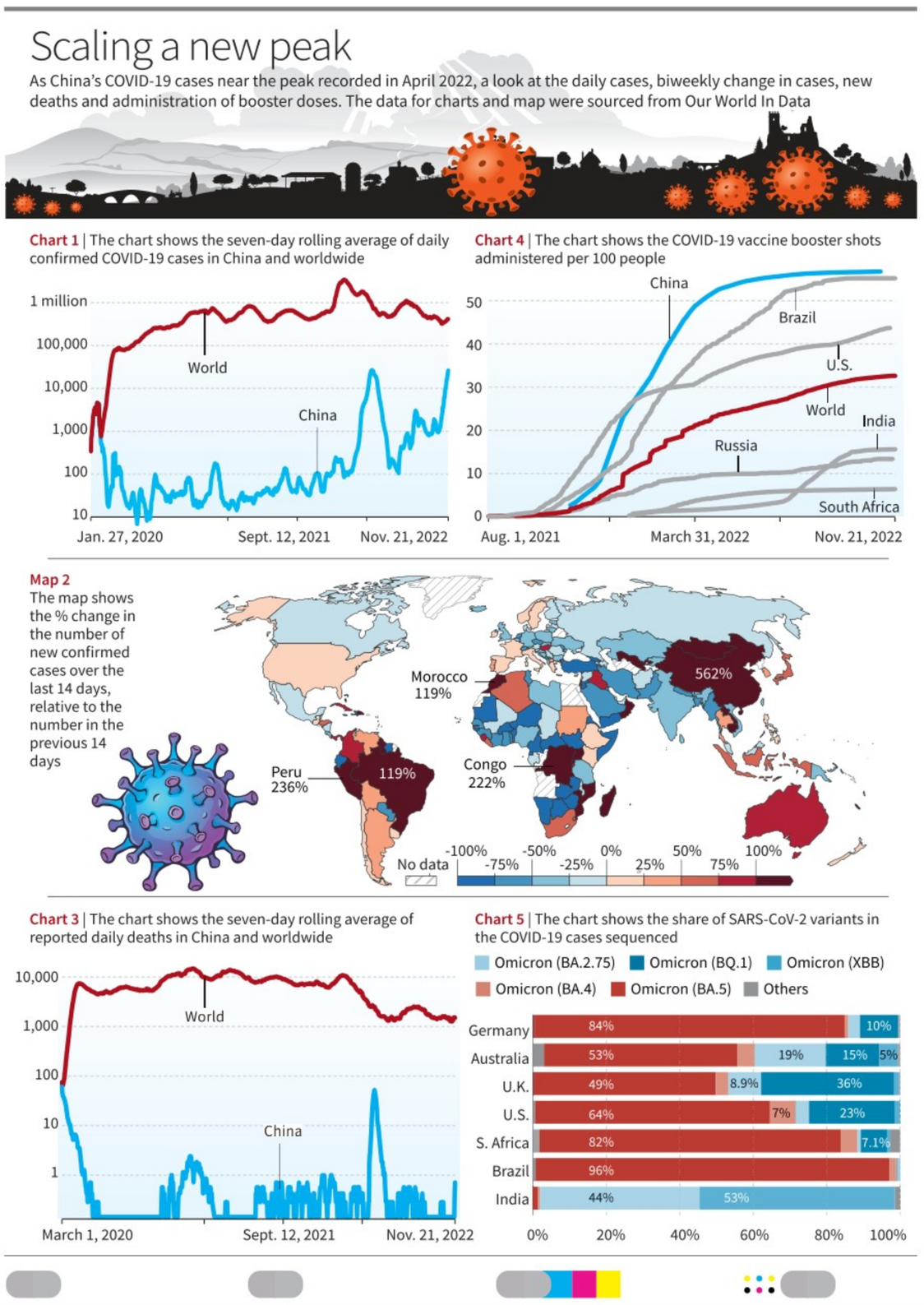
Chart 1 shows the seven-day rolling average of reported COVID-19 cases in China and worldwide. China's average daily case count has surged to over 26,000, which is close to its pandemic peak recorded in April this year. Globally, average daily cases stood at over 4,00,000 on November 21.

Map 2 shows the % change in the number of new cases over the last 14 days compared to the previous 14 days. The biweekly change in cases (562%) in China is the highest among all countries. However, several other nations such as Peru, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Brazil, Morocco, Mozambique, Oman, Mongolia and Uzbekistan also recorded over 100% biweekly increases in infections.

Chart 3 shows the seven-day rolling average of reported daily deaths in China and worldwide. Three deaths were reported in Beijing in the last week. This is much lower than the average number of deaths reported worldwide – 1,500, as of November 21.

Though China adopted a zero-COVID policy which entailed strict movement restrictions and the closing down of cities, shops and industries, data show that it did not give up on its vaccination campaign. In fact, China is ahead of the U.S. and other BRICS nations in the administration of booster doses relative to the population (**Chart 4**).

While China does not share its COVID-19 variant data, numbers from select countries show that newer Omicron sub-variants have emerged in recent months. While BA.5 continues to dominate in most nations, newer sub-variants such as BA 2.75, BQ.1, and XBB are fast catching up (**Chart 5**). In India, the XBB variant formed 53% of sequenced cases sent for analysis as of November 7, 2022.



FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 23, 1972

Jain woman fasts for 121 days

Bangalore, Nov. 22: A 56-year-old Jain housewife of Bangalore, Mrs. Dhapu Bai, who recently completed 121 days of fasting beat her own previous record of 111 days of fasting last year. Mrs. Dhapu Bai, began her fast at her residence in Sri Rangaswamy Temple Street, Bangalore, on July 25, 1972 and emerged successfully from her feat, healthy and cheerful, without obvious ill-effects. The woman had undertaken the fast for "self-purification and world peace." During her fast, she is said to have taken only sips of warm water. Pious and religious-minded, Mrs. Dhapu Bai has been fasting regularly every year since her childhood. Sri Vardhaman Sthanakvasi Jain Sravak Sangh to-day took Mrs. Dhapa Bai in a procession through the main thoroughfares of the city and later in the afternoon a public reception was held in her honour at the Glass House, Lal Bagh attended by a large number of people, including women and children. The Governor of Mysore, Mr. Mohanlal Sukhadia, who presided, commended the "extraordinary" feat of Mrs. Bai. He called the "self-purification" fast a 'tapasya'. Pointing to acute distress conditions prevailing in the North Mysore, Mr. Sukhadia appealed to the Jain community to contribute their mite to alleviate the sufferings of the people. The Mayor of Bangalore, Mr. Tiwari, who was the chief guest said that the city was fortunate in having spiritual-minded people like Mrs. Dhapa Bai who were doing their best for world peace and harmony.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 23, 1922

New Discovery

Leafield (Oxford) morning, Nov. 23: Sheffield metallurgists have discovered a process of making any articles of any metal stainless by deposit of a film of chromium, the same method being adopted as employed in electrolisation of silver known as electroplate. It is thus possible to make a knife of ordinary steel stainless without employment of stainless steel, which is a somewhat expensive form of steel because of the employment of chromium and other alloys in the actual process of steel making. Less chromium which is a somewhat dear alloy is used in the new process.

From Page One

SC calls out Centre over short tenures of CECs

"All these protections you can avail of, provided you have the term... When you have a term of just 188 days or 160 days, what is the point?" Justice Joseph asked.

Justice Joseph said the "most important" thing for a person heading an institution was a full term in office.

"What is the most important thing for anybody at the helm of affairs of an institution? The time he gets to do what he wants to do," Justice Joseph said. The judge said he had personally researched the tenures of all the CECs right from the first CEC Sukumar Sen, who served eight years and 273 days, till the 24th CEC Sushil Chandra, whose tenure was a little over a year.

Justice Joseph passed on his research findings to the other judges of the Bench, Mr. Venkataramani and petitioners' lawyers, senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan and advocate Prashant Bhushan.

'Checks and balances'

The judge said the government needed to respond as to why there had been "no checks and balances" in the issue. He referred to the constitutional mechanisms prevalent in countries like Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan and the United Kingdom in the appointment of Election authorities.

"Do you want us to remain behind other countries, particularly after the disturbing trend we have found?" Justice Joseph questioned the Attorney General.

The Constitution Bench is hearing a series of petitions seeking functional independence for Election Commissioners.

The court is specifically examining the question of setting up an "independent, neutral mechanism", outside the control of the government, for the appointment of Election Commissioners.

Mr. Bhushan pointed out how the government had "hurriedly" appointed retired IAS officer Arun Goel as the third Election Commissioner shortly after the previous Constitution Bench hearing on November 17.

"We are conscious of that," Justice Joseph responded.

In the last hearing, the court had orally remarked that a person appointed Election Commissioner could be completely honest, but may end up displaying a definite political leaning while in office.

Trade pact set to open up opportunities: Goyal

In his remarks, he thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for working with both the Morrison and Albenese administrations to ensure the signing and passing of the agreement.

He noted that India and Australia provide "complementarity" to each other saying, "We have nothing where we are competing with each other. We are providing largely finished goods, capital goods and value added goods which gives us a lot of job opportunities for the people in India."

The Minister compared the India-U.A.E. Free Trade Agreement with the IndAus ECTA and said, "every sector is happy" about the agreements.

India-U.A.E. FTA was signed in February 18 and the agreement came into Force on May 1. Mr. Goyal said, the agreement will strengthen geopolitical partnership between India and a "friendly democratic country like Australia".

"Our pharma industry will get a big boost because medicines, which have already gone through a rigorous approval process from the U.S. and the U.K., will have a pathway of fast-track mechanism to get approval in the Australian regulatory system," Mr. Goyal explained, adding that the textile sector of India will also benefit.

Six dead; Meghalaya says Assam officials fired without provocation

Meghalaya CM says Assam Police and Forest Guards entered the State, declares mourning; Government in Guwahati orders investigation by a retired judge into the 'clash that broke out when a forest party tried to stop a truck smuggling timber'

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Six people were killed and several injured in an exchange of fire on the Assam-Meghalaya boundary early on Tuesday morning. Five of the dead were residents of a nearby village, while the sixth was an Assam forest guard.

An Assam government statement said an investigation by a retired judge of the Gauhati High Court had been ordered into the firing between Assam forest officials and unknown miscreants at Mukhrow in the Jirikinding police station limits in West Karbi Anglong district.

The inquiry commission has been asked to submit its report within three months. The Assam government also decided to hand over the investigation to a Central investigation agency.

"The incident reportedly took place when the forest party attempted to stop a truck smuggling out illegal timber. When the truck was stopped, the forest personnel were gheraoed by unknown miscreants who resorted to violence. In order to save their lives, the forest party resorted to firing. In the incident, three civilians and one forest guard died," the statement read.

Precautionary measure: The Assam Police stop vehicles moving to Shillong and Meghalaya after the firing on the State boundary. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

In a Twitter post, Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma said the Assam Police and Assam Forest Guards had entered Meghalaya and resorted to unprovoked firing. The Meghalaya government strongly condemned the incident and would take all steps to ensure that justice was served and action taken against those responsible in the inhuman act, he said.

Six people were killed, five of them residents of Meghalaya, "due to firing by Assam police and Assam Forest guards", he said. Mr. Sangma referred to the village as Mukroh in West Jaiñtia Hills district.

"As a mark of respect and mourning for the deceased, the State government decided to cancel all upcoming official festivals," he said. The Chief Minister announced an ex gratia of ₹5 lakh each to the families of the deceased, and appealed to the people to maintain peace.

The Assam government, too, decided to provide ₹5 lakh each to the next of kin of the six dead, besides transferring Imdad Ali, Superintendent of Police of West Karbi Anglong district, and suspending Shikari Enghi, forest protection officer.

From Tuesday morning, the Meghalaya government suspended mobile Internet services in seven districts for 48 hours. This has been done "to prevent misuse" of social media platforms that may "disturb peace and tranquillity", a notification from Home Secretary C.V.D. Diengdoh read.

Apprehensive of a backlash, the Assam Police restricted the movement of vehicles to the Meghalaya capital Shillong and the headquarters of East Khasi Hills district, one of the seven where mobile Internet has been suspended.

The incident happened at a time when the two State governments are moving toward resolving their differences in the remaining six of the 12 disputed sectors on the inter-State boundary.

SC to hear NIA appeal against bail granted to Teltumbde

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday agreed to list on Friday an appeal by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) challenging the bail granted by the Bombay High Court to activist Anand Teltumbde in the Bhima Koregaon case.

Appearing before a Bench led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the NIA, sought a hearing in the next few days as the implementation of the High Court's bail order was on hold only for a week.

"We will hear it on Friday," the CJI told the law officer.

The Bombay High Court had granted bail to Mr. Teltumbde on November 18 while noting that the only *prima facie* case made out against him related to alleged association with a terror outfit and support given to it, for which the maximum punishment was imprisonment up to 10 years.

The High Court had noted that Mr. Teltumbde had already spent more than two years in jail.

At virtual Rozgar Mela, Modi hands over 71,000 appointment letters

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said that the possibility of new job opportunities in the private and government sectors in cities and villages had reduced the compulsion of youth to migrate and they were able to play their role in the development of their area.

As part of the government's 'Rozgar Mela' (employment fair), Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday distributed over 71,000 appointment letters to new recruits via video conferencing.

Addressing the second round of the fair where 71,000 new Central government recruits were given joining letters at 45 locations across the country, Mr. Modi said, "Possibility of new jobs in both the government and private sector is continuously increasing. More importantly, these opportunities are emerging for the youth in their own cities and villages."

Livelihood matters: Narendra Modi addressing a 'Rozgar Mela' through video conferencing, in Jammu on Tuesday. PTI

'Mission mode'

Earlier in October, 75,000 appointment letters were handed over to the newly inducted appointees in the first round. In June, the Prime Minister had announced that 10 lakh existing Central government vacancies would be filled by December 2023.

"The Rozgar Mela of today is proof that the Central government is working in mission mode to provide employment opportunities to the youth of the country... The government is according the highest priority to utilise their talent and energy for nation-building," the Prime Minister said.

Throwing light on the Karmayogi Bharat technology platform launched on Tuesday, Mr. Modi talked about the availability of many online courses for government officials. Also launching Karmayogi Prarambh, a special online orientation course designed for new appointees in government departments, he urged the appointees to make the most out of it. He touched upon the crisis created for the youth at the global level due to the pandemic and the war. He said that even in this difficult time, experts around the world are optimistic about India's growth trajectory.

"As per the experts, India has become a major force in the service sector and soon it will be the manufacturing hub of the world too," he said. He added that 80,000 start-ups in the country are providing the youth opportunity to showcase their talent.

Physical copies of appointment letters were handed over at 45 locations across the country, except Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh where the Model Code of Conduct is in force.

Rajnath proposes role for women in UN peacekeeping

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday made two proposals for expanding the scope and depth of the India-ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations) defence relations.

These include an initiative for women in United Nations Peace Keeping (UNPK) operations and another initiative on marine plastic pollution. He made the proposals at the inaugural India-ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting held on Tuesday at Siem Reap in Cambodia to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of India-ASEAN relations.

On the sidelines, Mr. Singh also held a bilateral meeting with U.S. Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin during which he emphasised the need for both countries to "work together for capability building in critical domains such as military aviation, artificial intelligence and cyber technology."

Mr. Singh emphasised that the centrality of ASEAN in the Indo-Pacific region is the cornerstone of India's Act East Policy.

The second initiative on marine plastic pollution includes channelling the energy of the youth towards addressing the critical issue of marine pollution, the statement said.

Mr. Singh informed the ASEAN members of the significant work done by the National Cadet Corps (NCC) in the cleaning of Indian beaches and raising awareness of plastic pollution in the coastal community, the Ministry said.

"He suggested coordination between the NCC and the equivalent youth organisations of ASEAN countries for a collective effort in this direction in the region."

300 militants active in J&K, 160 militants waiting at launch pads across border, says Army

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR/JAMMU

The Army and the Jammu & Kashmir Police on Tuesday claimed that the number of active local militants had dropped to double digits this year from the three digits last year. However, they flagged the continuing presence of foreign militants and an imminent threat of fresh infiltration.

"Figures available suggest that of the 300 militants active in J&K, including in the Rajouri-Poonch belt, there are 82 foreign militants and 53 local militants. Security scenario has witnessed a big change post August 5, 2019. Peace and development has gained speed and civil administration is occupying the space," Lieutenant-General Upendera Dwivedi, the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command, said in Poonch.

Upendera Dwivedi

Worrisome trend

However, Lt. Gen. Dwivedi said the worrisome trend was that there were almost 170 unidentified militants who were tasked with conducting criminal activities. "There are 160 militants at various launch pads across the border. All efforts are afoot by the Army to prevent and foil the designs of militants with regard to attacking the security forces across the Union Territory," he said.

Lt. Gen. Dwivedi said militants operating in J&K were facing a shortage of weapons and the neighbouring country was sending consignments of pistols, grenades, and drugs.

In Kashmir, J&K Director-General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh also suggested that the number of active local militants had reduced to two digits.

Farm outfits meet FM for pre-Budget talks, raise issues on GST

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Farmers' organisations said they were not getting any input tax credit in the GST regime

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman held pre-Budget interactions with representatives of farmers, cooperatives, and agro-food industries here on Monday.

While farmers' organisations said they were not getting any input tax credit in the GST regime and demanded legalised minimum support price (MSP) in the upcoming session of Parliament, industry associations urged the Centre to lift the ban on exports of various agriculture produce and promotion for edible oil from soybean, mustard, groundnut and sunflower, instead of palm.

The issue of high taxes on processed food also came up for discussion during the meeting.

RSS-backed farmers' outfit Bharatiya Kisan Sangh's general secretary Mohini Mohan Mishra, who attended the meeting, said the Minister took down their suggestions.

He said he hoped that they would be implemented. Bharat Krishak Samaj chairman Ajay Vir Jakhar urged the Centre not to allow import of produce with landing costs below MSP.

Foreign Secretary meets Myanmar's military leaders, no talks on state of democracy

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra interacted with members of Myanmar's military junta regime during his visit to the country this week, engaging in a discussion on border management, human trafficking issues and infrastructure projects.

In a departure from the past, however, he did not meet with leaders of the deposed National Unity Government, and did not demand the release of detainees, including leader Aung San Suu Kyi, indicating a possible softening of New Delhi's position on the country's ruling military government.

A tweet by the External Affairs Ministry spokesperson mentioned talks were held about Myanmar's "democratic transition", but the official press release made no mention of any discussions on the restoration of democracy, or the release of those detained.

"During his meetings with the senior leadership of Myanmar, Foreign Secretary discussed maintenance of security and stability in the border areas of India and Myanmar; raised the issue of human trafficking by international crime syndicates in the Myawaddy area of Myanmar, and reviewed bilateral development cooperation projects," said the release.

A tweet by the spokesperson added that Mr. Kwatra had held discussions on "India's support to democratic transition in Myanmar".

Myanmar's Foreign Ministry said that Mr. Kwatra met with Foreign Minister U. Wunna Maung Lwin, as well as the Deputy Foreign Minister and other officials in Nay Pyi Taw, the capital.

"[Mr. Kwatra and Mr. Lwin] cordially discussed and exchanged views on enhancing the existing friendly bilateral relations and promoting cooperation between the two countries in the areas, *inter-alia*, trade, investment, and ongoing development projects, strengthening closer collaboration in regional and multilateral contexts...," a statement issued on the regime's national portal said.

BJP fights complacency, works hard to bring voters to the polling booth

The party's real challenge is to ensure that votes are cast in a State where it has been in power for 27 years in a row; Modi has travelled to various areas of the State in a blitz of campaign rallies, mostly in seats where the party lost in 2017

Nistula Hebbar
AHMEDABAD

Rallying cry: Prime Minister Narendra Modi being garlanded during a public meeting ahead of the Gujarat Assembly election in Surendranagar on Monday. PTI

The Assembly election this time in Gujarat elicits various responses, none as strong as the supposed inevitability of a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) win. The only people not so sanguine about result day, however, are party old-timers, who are intent on getting people out to vote come polling day.

At his election office in the Sabarmati Assembly constituency in Ahmedabad, Harshad Patel, a long-time election agent for Union Home Minister Amit Shah and finally a candidate himself for the seat, says that while he has no doubt the BJP will win, he has set a target for himself – ensuring 75% voting on polling day. "Our *karyakartas* get their best out in a state of struggle. This election is not like the last time around and therefore, we need to set proper tasks on getting the vote out," Mr. Patel said.

The BJP dropped nearly 42 MLAs and replaced them with fresh candidates – even former Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, former Deputy Chief Minister Nitin Patel and other stalwarts were dropped from the candidate list. Party insiders say that it was to combat the feeling of fatigue among the party's own voters who have seen 27 years of uninterrupted rule by the BJP. The faces of the Opposition fight in 2017, like Alpesh Thakore and Hardik Patel, are part of the BJP now, as well as 15 to 17 Congress MLAs who won in 2017. A situation that, Mr. Patel said, should be combated by setting goals for the party's formidable election machinery, of which he has intimate knowledge.

PM's campaign

Prime Minister Narendra Modi too seems to be aware of the danger of complacency, and has criss-crossed the State in a blitz of rallies, most of them in constituencies where the party lost in 2017. In total, Mr. Modi is scheduled to address 28 rallies, and has attended nine since the dates for the polls were announced. A look at where he has addressed rallies shows his state of mind. He visited Somnath temple (the BJP lost all four Gir-Somnath Assembly seats in 2017), then Dhoraji in Rajkot, a seat held by the Congress, followed by Amreli, where again the BJP had lost all five Assembly seats. He also addressed rallies in Botad, Valsad and Surendranagar. Barring Valsad, the others were tough sells for the BJP.

"Even going ahead, Mr. Modi will be addressing rallies where the party needs a leg-up," a source said.

Yamal Vyas, chief spokesperson of the BJP in Gujarat, says that with a page system put in place, the in-charge of each page of a constituency's voter list will have an effect on bringing up the vote. "Our page system is good at getting voters out," he said.

All this points to the fact that beneath the surface of a seemingly somnolent election that seems to be going one way, the real challenge is to ensure that the vote is cast. For a cadre-driven, task-driven party like the BJP, it is not a challenge that is undoable.

With elections, Surat powerloom units weave their way back to work

Abhinay Deshpande
SURAT

Election fever: Workers from leading political parties shopping at a store selling poll materials in Surat, Gujarat. VIJAY SONEJI

After struggling for two years with no work due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Assembly elections in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh turned into a money-spinner for a large number of powerloom workers in Surat. The city is the world's largest manufacturing hub for artificial fabrics.

Over a lakh workers are engaged in weaving, dyeing and stitching election material to meet the high demand from political parties.

Though the business during the Deepavali season was relatively low, the contest among the BJP, the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party, not just in Gujarat but also in Himachal Pradesh, has been a boon for the textile industries in Surat. Eleven months of restrictions imposed on textile units in Ahmedabad to curb the pollution levels have benefited Surat in generating more business from the political parties this election season.

Political parties have placed orders for lakhs of caps, T-shirts, scarves, party flags, saris, festoon flags, tent material for decorating the stage, and banners.

Ahmedabad's loss

"Temporary ban on processing units in Ahmedabad has surely benefited the business here, which was in a lull even during the Deepavali season. But, producing lakhs of metres of material is easy compared to stitching and screen printing, which is usually carried out in Ahmedabad," said Khushal Barochia, an employee of a small-scale textile unit.

According to Sanjay Saraogi, director of Laxmipati Sarees, a leading textile unit in Gujarat, there is high demand and the sales are expected to reach over ₹1,000 crore this election season. He said there were around 25 textile industries in Surat, which were exclusively producing election materials, including lakhs of metres of saris, tent material, flags and scarves.

Amitbhai Mittal, who works at a similar unit in Pandesara, the city's industrial hub, said that so far they had delivered more than 15 lakh Nehru-styled saffron-coloured topis, apart from other election material.

"We only take orders from the BJP. Our units have been functioning round-the-clock," he said.

NDA is India's biggest non-performing asset, says Kharge

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Mallikarjun Kharge

Non-performing assets (NPAs) have risen by 365% under the Narendra Modi government, the Congress alleged on Tuesday and questioned why "unbridled" powers are being given to public sector banks to sell off assets at "throwaway" prices.

"In last 5 yrs, NPA: Write offs: ₹10,09,510 Cr. Recovery: ₹1,32,000 Cr To top that NPAs have skyrocketed by a massive 365% under BJP regime. Govt is DESTROYING small & medium businesses and SQUANDERING people's money for crony capitalists. NDA is India's biggest NPA!" tweeted party president Mallikarjun Kharge, criticising the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance government.

Supriya Shrinate, Congress spokesperson and head of the social media department, said 38 wilful defaulters had fled the country after swindling banks. What were the government's plans to bring them back, she asked. In the past five years alone, the government had written off ₹10 lakh crore and only 13% of that had been recovered. "This write-off is as good as a loan waiver," she said.

She said 542 cases were resolved recently through the National Company Law Tribunal and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code and the amount of debt involved was ₹8 lakh crore but only ₹2 lakh crore was recovered.

"If the common man fails to pay EMIs, they will be named and shamed and recoveries will be made, but it is astonishing that those who have defaulted in a big way have not been named so far," she alleged.

1,621 candidates in fray for Gujarat Assembly polls after deadline for withdrawal expires

The Hindu Bureau
AHMEDABAD

Former Congress MLA Kaminiba Rathod joining the BJP ahead of the Gujarat Assembly election in Gandhinagar on Tuesday. PTI

A total of 1,621 candidates are in the fray in the Gujarat Assembly election after the deadline for the withdrawal of nominations got over on Monday.

Elections to the 182-member Assembly would be held in two phases on December 1 and 5 for 89 and 93 seats, respectively.

In the first phase, 89 seats of Saurashtra and south Gujarat regions will go to the polls on December 1, while polling 93 seats of north and central Gujarat regions will be held on December 5.

As per the details shared by the office of the Chief Electoral Officer, 788 candidates are in the race in the first phase and 833 in the second phase.

The ruling BJP is contesting all 182 seats, while the Congress has fielded candidates in 179 seats and left three seats for its alliance partner, NCP.

However, the NCP is contesting only two seats as its candidate from Devgarh Baria opted out of the race, withdrawing his nomination papers on Monday. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) had announced candidates for all 182 seats, but its candidate withdrew his nomination from the Surat East seat.

Another party in the race is the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM), which has fielded candidates in 14 Assembly seats but its candidate withdrew from the Bapunagar seat.

For the polls, more than 4.9 crore people are eligible to cast their votes. As per the details of the Election Commission, there are 11.62 lakh new voters, including 4.61 lakh first-time voters.

Watch our analysis
Talking Politics with Nistula Hebbar | Gujarat elections
bit.ly/3EsqXWp

Bhupendra Patel is a 'puppet CM', says Kejriwal

Press Trust of India
DEVBHUMI DWARKA

Aam Aadmi Party leader Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday called Bhupendra Patel a "puppet Chief Minister" of Gujarat who cannot even appoint his peon.

Speaking at a rally at Gujarat's Khambhalia for the AAP's chief ministerial candidate Isudan Gadhvi, he also alleged that there is secret collusion between the BJP and the Congress.

Complaint against BJP for 'using' seven-year-old girl for campaign

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday filed a complaint with the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights against the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for violating Election Commission (EC) guidelines with regard to prohibiting minor children from political campaigns.

"This is an open and shut case of violation of child rights and misuse of children for electioneering by the PM himself," tweeted Congress communications chief Jairam Ramesh.

It comes a day after a video clip showing a seven-year-old girl, standing next to Mr. Modi, reciting a poem to praise the work of the BJP, was released.

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS, TIRUPATI
BIRRD TRUST HOSPITAL, TIRUPATI
e- TENDER NOTICE
BIRRD Trust Hospital, TTD, Tirupati is inviting e-Tendres from the eligible Manufacturers / Firms/ Authorized Distributors for the work "Rate contract for supply of Arthroplasty (USFDA Certified) on Consigment case to case basis to BIRRD Trust Hospital, TTD,Tirupati for a period of Two years **NIT ROC No.TTD-104021(31)/137/2021-BIRRD-TTD-Part (2)** & Tender ID 567075 in AP eProc.Portal. Date of Upload tender on 24-11-2022 and closing Date : 07-12-2022. For details log on to the website https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in/ & http://www.tirumala.org/. **Contact: 98494 17888**
ROC No. PR4/13948/Adv. No.290/ PRO/2022, Dated: 22.11.2022 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF TELANGANA LIMITED
e - TENDER NOTICE

Sl.No.	Specification No.	Description of Equipment
1	TSPMM 12- 36/2022	Supply of 2 Nos 50MVA 220/33kV Power Transformers.

Tenderers can have further details and download the tender schedule from e-procurement market place i.e., **http://tender.telangana.gov.in** (Telangana state). Contact Nos: Chief Engineer/P&MM TSTransco, Phone: 040-23396000, Extn.: 3670 /3583/ 3460/ 3334, Fax No:040-23303736 **www.tstransco.gov.in.**
RO: 38/22 **Sd/- Chief Engineer/P&MM**

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
Chennai Division
Office of the Sr Divisional Electrical Engineer Electric Loco Shed, Royapuram
E-Tender Notice
Online tenders are invited from the intending contractors by the undersigned through e-tender portal of Railways https://www.ireps.gov.in for the following work
Tender No.: **M-RS-RPM-W-OT-22-23-7**
Description of Work: Cleaning of locomotives and locomotive equipment at Electric Loco Shed, Royapuram for two years
Date & Time of Tender Closing : 12.12.2022 & 15:00 hrs
Note: For further details of tender please visit **https://www.ireps.gov.in**
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer
Rolling Stock, Royapuram
Southern Railway
Follow us on: twitter.com/GMSRailway

Why can't minorities be determined State-wise, top court asks petitioner

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The question came during the hearing of a series of petitions for the district-wise identification of minority communities

The Supreme Court on Tuesday questioned a petitioner's argument that minority status for religious communities should be granted district-wise.

"Can minorities be determined district-wise? Why not State-wise," Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, accompanied by Justice A.S. Oka, asked advocate-petitioner Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay. A judgment in the *TMA Pai* case had held that linguistic and religious minorities should be identified State-wise.

The question came while hearing a series of petitions seeking the identification of minority communities district-wise, saying the recognition of Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Parsis nationally by the Centre as 'minorities' ignore the fact that 'majority' religious communities like Hindus are actually "socially, economically, politically non-dominant and numerically inferior" in several States.

The court adjourned the case by six weeks after the government sought more time.

NOTICE INVITING BID
Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMCL)
In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar-751001
Tel.:(0674) 2380950; Website: www.osmcl.nic.in ;
Email: drugs-osmcl@gov.in
Assuring Quality, Saving Lives
Bid Ref. No.: OSMCL/2022-23/DRUGS-KIDNEY/16 Date: 22/11/2022
Online Bids through **e-Tender portal (https://tendersodisha.gov.in)** are invited from eligible bidders for **Supply of Post-Kidney Transplant Drugs as per the particulars mentioned below:**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date and time	
1.	Date & time of release of bid	22/11/2022, 3 PM	
2.	Date & time for submission of queries by E-Mail id - **drugs-osmcl@gov.in**	24/11/2022, up to 5:00 PM	
3.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time
		28/11/2022, 3 PM	12/12/2022, 6.00 PM
4.	Date & Time for submission of Tender Documents, Tender Document Fee of Tender document.	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time
		13/12/2022, 10 AM	20/12/2022,11.00 AM
5.	Date & time of Online Technical bid Opening	20/12/2022, 11:30 AM	
6.	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the qualified bidders	

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: **www.osmcl.nic.in** and **https://tendersodisha.gov.in** . The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.
CAD-2823
SD/-
Managing Director, OSMC Ltd., Odisha
OIPR-10112/11/0044/2223

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
KARNATAKA SLUM DEVELOPMENT BOARD
No. 55, Abhaya Complex, Risaldar Street, Seshadripuram,BENGALURU-560 020. Ph.:080-23460085
No: KSDB/Commr/TD-BC/12/2021-22/574 **Dated :17/11/2022**
INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM RE-TENDERS (IFT)
(THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY) (Two Cover System, KW-4)
The Karnataka Slum Development Board (KSDB) Bengaluru invites item rate tenders for the **Construction of Houses & Balance Works for under progress houses in different slums of Rajarajeshwarinagara Constituency in Bangalore City under RAY Scheme - (2nd Call) and Yeshwanthpur Constituency in Bangalore City under PMAY Scheme - (2nd Call)** from the eligible class-1 registered KPWD/CPWD contractors.

Calendar of Events	
Time and Date of Pre Bid Conference	**24/11/2022 at 11:00 AM**
Last Date and Time for receipt of Tenders in Portal	**30/11/2022 upto 05:00 PM**
Time and Date of Opening of Tender Documents (Qualification Information)	**02/12/2022 at 11:00 AM**
Time and Date of Opening of Financial Bid	Time and Date will be Intimated for the eligible bidders
Place of Receiving and Opening of Tender Documents	Office of the Technical Director, Bangalore Circle Karnataka Slum Development Board #55, 1st Floor Abhaya Complex, Risaldar Street Sheshadripuram, Bengaluru-560020 Phone: +91 80 23564651, 23462436. Email id: ksdbtd2@gmail.com Web Site https://karunadu.karnataka.gov.in/ksdb

If there are any changes to the above notification, it will be published in e-procurement portal only. Tender Documents, schedule, specifications are available on the website: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Tender form fees & EMD details are available on the e-procurement portal. EMD and tender processing fees shall be paid using e-procurement payment modes only. Tender application must be accompanied by earnest money deposit specified for the works and shall have to be valid for 45 days beyond the validity of tender date.
DIPR/CP/JA/3191/2022-23
Sd/-Commissioner,
Karnataka Slum Development Board, Bengaluru

INBRIEF

Zorba, India's first dog on anti-poacher duty, is dead

Zorba, India's first dog to be deployed for tracking down poachers, has died of age-related ailments in Guwahati. The 12-year-old male Belgian Malinois was a member of 'K9', the nation's first dog squad to fight wildlife crime. Zorba was the first dog of the squad, and he was credited with helping law enforcement authorities nab over 60 poachers. He was given a teary farewell by wildlife activists and was buried on Tuesday. Zorba retired from service in 2019 and was honoured with a traditional Assamese *gamosa* (a scarf) and a citation on Independence Day this year. He served mostly in the Kaziranga National Park from 2012 till his retirement. PTI

IAF choppers undergoing overhaul in Russia

The single squadron of Mi-35 attack helicopters of the Indian Air Force (IAF) is undergoing a complete overhaul in Russia to extend their lifespan by six years and keep them in service beyond this decade, according to defence sources. "The overhaul is being done in two batches. The first batch is currently in Russia and once they are done, the second batch will be sent. The entire overhaul should be completed by mid-2023," a defence source said. The overhaul of each batch takes six to eight months, the source added. The IAF earlier operated two squadrons of the older Russian Mi-25/35 attack helicopters, of which one has been phased out following the induction of 22 Apache helicopters.

Ananda Bose to be sworn in as Bengal Governor today

Governor-designate of West Bengal C.V. Ananda Bose on Tuesday arrived in Kolkata. He will be sworn in as the Governor on Wednesday. Mr. Bose was received by State Ministers Sashi Panja and Firhad Hakim including top State government officials Chief Secretary H.K. Dwivedi and Kolkata Police Commissioner Vineet Kumar Goyal. He was given a guard of honour at the airport, before being escorted to the Raj Bhavan. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee spoke to Mr. Bose on the telephone and conveyed her best wishes for being designated for the highest constitutional office of the State.

Five killed, seven hurt as SUV overturns in Lakhimpur Kheri

Five people were killed and seven injured when a sport utility vehicle (SUV), in which they were travelling, overturned and fell into a gorge on the Pallia-Bhira road near Atariya village of Lakhimpur Kheri district on Tuesday morning. Officials of the local administration reached the spot and rushed the injured to the nearest primary health centre at Palia. The accident took place near the railway crossing at Palia Kalan when the SUV with roughly a dozen people, mostly labourers, lost balance and overturned. Five people were killed on the spot. They were going from Shahjahanpur to Palia Kalan in Lakhimpur Kheri.

Skill training of MGNREGS workers lags; Centre blames it on the States

Unnati project launched in 2020 to reduce dependence on job scheme has trained 25,056 persons against the two lakh target; the government plans to link project with the labour budget, hoping to influence the performance of the States

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Facing less than a lukewarm response to project Unnati, which aims to reduce dependence on the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) by imparting skill training to its beneficiaries, the Union Rural Development Ministry wants to link performances of the States under the project with its labour budget for the next financial year.

Since its inception in 2020, just a little over 25,000 persons have been trained under the project, falling far short of its target of two lakh. The project was slated to end in March 2022, but has been extended by two years.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Union Rural Development Minister Giriraj Singh said, "The State governments' indifference towards Unnati project is emblematic of their apathy for the workers. But we can't turn a blind eye to it, and therefore, the labour budget of the States will be influenced by their performance under the project."

Livelihood chances: The Grameen Kaushal Yojana offers skill training to candidates from a rural background. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Unnati was launched with the intention of upgrading the skill base of MGNREGS workers to help them transition from partial employment to full employment. The aim of the project is to train one adult member (18-45 age group) of a household that has completed 100 days of work under the MGNREGS.

"If a household is working for 100 days under the MGNREGS, that shows that they are completely dependent on it for their livelihood and are the poorest of the lot. Thus, this criterion was used as the baseline," a senior official said. The selected candidate is eligible for wages on a par with that given under the MGNREGS during the training.

"At least 20% of the households that complete 100 days of work under the MGNREGS should be targeted by the States under the scheme [Unnati]," the Minister added.

The performance so far has been far below this 20% target. In the financial year 2020-21, for example, 71 lakh households worked for 100 days in the country under the MGNREGS, but only 8,658 persons received training under the Unnati project. Similarly, in 2021-22, the number of eligible households stood at 59 lakh, but only 12,577 persons were trained. The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic that coincided with the launch of the project is also blamed for its tardy implementation. With cases on the wane, the Ministry is hoping that the project will pick up pace.

"We have to realise that there is a huge shortage of skilled manpower in the country. While, we provide assistance to the unskilled workers, it is equally essential for sustainable growth that we upgrade their skills," Mr. Singh said.

Under the project, the selected candidates are skilled using three established training programmes – the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Grameen Kaushal Yojana (DDU-GKY), the Rural Self Training Institute (RSETI) and the Krishi Vigyan Kendra. The Grameen Kaushal Yojana is a placement-linked programme, in which 70% of the trained candidates have to be compulsorily employed with a minimum salary of ₹6,000 a month.

SC to hear plea on poll bonds on December 6

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday fixed December 6 for hearing a petition challenging the government notification allowing the sale of electoral bonds for an additional 15 days in Assembly election years.

A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud said the petition would be listed along with earlier pending ones which had challenged the electoral bonds scheme itself. The petition has sought the quashing of a November 7 notification issued by the Finance Ministry amending the electoral bonds scheme. "An additional period of 15 days shall be specified by the Central government in the year of general elections to the Assembly of States and Union Territories with the legislature," the Gazette notification had said. Earlier, a 30-day extra period for sale was allowed in a Lok Sabha election year.

Railways to simulate accident to test preparedness of relief teams

S. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI

In a first, the Indian Railways will assess the preparedness and performance of its accident-relief teams in real time by simulating a major accident, involving derailment of coaches and huge casualties, in Bengaluru on Thursday.

For this exercise, at least 10 condemned coaches have been "derailed" and positioned along the railway tracks in Bengaluru.

Relief teams drawn from different zones across the railway network will participate in the drill to "rescue" nearly 100 passengers and restore normal traffic.

The exercise is being organised by the Indian Railway Institute of Disaster Management, Bengaluru, in association with the National Institute of Disaster Management.

IRIDM Director V.V.S. Sreenivas has written to the General Managers of Zonal Railways to depute senior officers from the mechanical and safety wings to a five-day training programme on disaster management being held in Bengaluru. The drill will be part of that event.

Condemned coaches derailed along a railway track in Bengaluru to simulate a major accident with 100 casualties as part of an exercise to check the preparedness of accident-relief teams. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Experts from the National Disaster Response Force, the State Disaster Response Force, the Fire Service, Civil Defence and so on will be present for it.

The exercise, the scale of which is the biggest in the Indian Railways, was necessitated by the increase in speed and load of trains in recent years.

Realistic mock drills were essential to assess the efficacy of the accident relief train (ART) team and ensure their preparedness in the event of major accidents, sources said.

According to a senior Railway official, the initiative by the IRIDM comes days after the Railway Ministry nominated it as the nodal agency for monitoring and assessment of mock drills.

With fewer train accidents, and retirement of staff attached to the ARTs, there was a need to sensitise the ART staff to the emerging challenges and also enhance their capacity by exposing them to technologies and advanced relief/rescue equipment.

The accident scene created by the IRIDM was along the Bengaluru-Mysore main line for full scale drill. However, sufficient distance was ensured from the main line for safe movement of trains.

About 40 senior railway officers, 50 officials incharge of Accident Relief Trains from across Indian Railways and 75 disaster management experts drawn from different fields will participate in the programme.

India and the UAE hold talks on food security cooperation

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The two sides also discussed, energy, healthcare, defence, space, climate change, fin-tech

India and the UAE are going ahead with food security cooperation under the I2U2, a new West Asian quadrilateral that includes Israel and the U.S.

UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar discussed the cooperation under this initiative on Tuesday.

"On food security cooperation under I2U2, a delegation led by CEO of ADQ visited India in October to take discussions forward with different stakeholders," the External Affairs Ministry said in a press note.

ADQ is an "active investor" and a sovereign wealth fund located in Abu Dhabi.

The I2U2 leaders' summit in July decided to harness private capital among the member countries for projects on agriculture, infrastructure, digital connectivity, water, energy and transportation.

On Tuesday, the two sides took note that bilateral ties witnessed an "appreciable" growth since the conclusion of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

"India's exports to the UAE between April-September 2022 were about USD 16 billion which was an increase of 24% year to year while India's imports increased 38% to reach USD 28.4 billion in the same time period," the Ministry said.

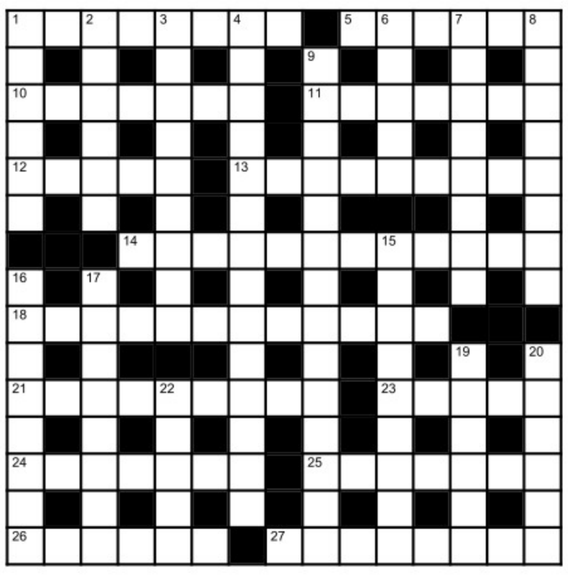
Apart from bilateral trade, the two sides also discussed, energy, healthcare, defence, space, climate change, skills, fintech and start-ups. The two Ministers also discussed "global situation and various regional hotspots" during the talks, the Ministry added.

TH CROSSWORD + 13718

(set by Dr. X)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Terribly bad effort, conceding bishop in exchange (5-3)
5 Cocktail, if iced is divine (6)
10 Obsession with models introduced by excellent car manufacturer (7)
11 Introduce upper-class woman at club briefly (5,2)
12 Crushed by asinine verdict? Not at all (5)
13 Arouse a little in order to have sex (9)
14 Oh, hoarder is excitedly keeping money in piles (12)
18 Reverend, I go crazy after drinking liquor - my job's on the line! (6,6)
21 Hurry up and dance (5,1,3)
23 Back starting to pain in a spot (5)
24 Sister having trouble getting good power tool (4,3)
25 Pick up traveller smuggling ecstasy and cocaine (7)
26 Female crushed by miserable review, in tears (6)
27 Greek hero in work about Ulysses craftily killing many (8)

Down

1 Container aboard boat for recreational activity on water (6)
2 Greek person, one essentially bearing gift (6)
3 Put up with poor internet around area (9)
4 Expose hustler involved in cheating? OK (4,2,8)
6 The sly rogue wants special type of alcohol (5)
7 Develop a detailed procedure to make preservative (8)
8 Italian noble cheating with beauty in retreat (8)
9 Articulate fellow involved in spree getting embarrassed and clumsy (14)
15 Chief priests in shire, assembled around dome (9)
16 Start to appreciate boy in family becoming mature (8)
17 Saint in Tunisia, wandering around middle of night (8)
19 Legends touring posh Vatican art museum (6)
20 Seabird aboard steamship poops (6)
22 Maiden dumped pathetic bore (5)

SUDOKU

5	6	1				8		
	4				6		9	
2				4	8		7	
				1	2	3		
		2	8	9				
	1		2	6				5
	9		4				1	
		5				7	3	6

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

No.SS5627 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	1	7	8	2	3	4	9	5
8	3	5	9	7	4	6	2	1
2	4	9	1	5	6	8	3	7
1	6	3	2	8	7	9	5	4
4	7	2	3	9	5	1	8	6
9	5	8	4	6	1	3	7	2
3	2	1	5	4	9	7	6	8
5	9	6	7	1	8	2	4	3
7	8	4	6	3	2	5	1	9

FAITH

Attachment, the root cause

We can search in the Mahabharatha for any guidance needed to lead our day-to-day life. If we can't get it in the Mahabharatha, we can't get elsewhere. Sage Veda Vyasa had deftly crafted more than one hundred thousand slokas in the Mahabharatha. It is said that Lord Vishnu Himself has manifested as Veda Vyasa.

Lord Narayana churned the sea of milk ocean with Mandara mountain as churning rod and gave nectar to all celestials. Similarly Veda Vyasa churned the sea of Vedantha with his knowledge as churning rod and gave us the Mahabharatha nectar.

Yudhishtira was feeling sad after the war, telling to himself that he killed all his cousins, including Duryodhana. He approached his greatgrandfather Bhishma to seek a way to get out of his bemoaning. The advice of Bhishma to Yudhishtira can be seen in Chapter XII, Moksha Parva which dwells in length about liberation. The root cause of happiness or sadness in life is attachment.

A question arises in our mind as to what happiness and sadness are? Scriptures reveal that when a thing or an act which we like comes or happens, it brings happiness. If it does not, it results in sadness. Conversely a thing or an act which we don't like comes or happens it gives sadness. If it does not, it yields happiness. We have to learn to live without getting attached too much. We are only custodian of what God has given to us and should remove the thought that everything belongs to us.

By developing devotion and involving in godly deeds with the help of elders, we can overcome the attachment, said Velukkudi Sri Krishnan swamy in a discourse.

BEIJING

Fire kills 38 people at industrial wholesale unit in central China

A fire killed 38 people at a company dealing in chemicals and other industrial goods in China's Henan. Two others were injured. The fire was reported at 4.30 p.m. on Monday and took firefighters about three-and-a-half hours to bring under control. No word was given on the cause of the fire or how so many employees were killed. AP

TEHRAN

Iran says it has started enriching uranium to 60% at Fordo plant

Iran said it had begun producing uranium enriched to 60% at its Fordo plant, an underground facility that reopened three years ago amid the breakdown of its nuclear deal with major powers. The move was part of Iran's response to the UN nuclear watchdog's adoption last week of a censure motion drafted by the West. AFP

SAN FRANCISCO

Elon Musk delays launch of paid verification on Twitter yet again

Twitter boss Elon Musk postponed the relaunch of paid verification on the platform, extending a suspension he previously said would end this month. "Holding off relaunch of Blue Verified until there is high confidence of stopping impersonation," he tweeted. "Will use different color check for organizations than individuals." REUTERS

ISLAMABAD

Imran Khan 'sold' gold medal he received from India: Pak. Minister

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan "sold" a gold medal he received from India during his cricketing years, the country's defence minister Khawaja Asif has claimed. Mr. Khan is in the crosshairs these days for buying gifts at a discounted price from the state depository called Toshakhana and selling them for profit.

Indonesia quake toll jumps to 268, rescue workers hunt for survivors

The epicentre of the 5.6-magnitude quake on Monday was near the town of Cianjur where most of the victims were killed; hundreds of people were injured, dozens feared trapped as buildings collapsed and landslides were triggered

Agence France-Presse
CIANJUR

Scouring for remains: Villagers salvage items from damaged houses in Cianjur on Tuesday following the earthquake. Officials say many of the victims were children while 151 people remained missing. AFP

The death toll from an earthquake on Indonesia's main island of Java jumped to 268 on Tuesday, as rescuers searched for survivors in the rubble and relatives started to bury their loved ones.

As body bags emerged from crumpled buildings in Indonesia's most populous province, West Java, rescue efforts turned to any survivors still under debris in areas made hard to reach by the mass of obstacles thrown onto the roads by the quake.

The epicentre of the shallow 5.6-magnitude quake on Monday was near the town of Cianjur where most of the victims were killed, hundreds were injured and dozens feared trapped as buildings collapsed and landslides were triggered.

The death toll jumped dramatically again later on Tuesday from 162 to 268, Suharyanto, the head of Indonesia's national disaster mitigation agency, or BNPB, told a press conference.

At least 151 people remain missing and more than 1,000 have been injured, said the official, who like many Indonesians goes by one name.

"The focus is still on the search and evacuation of victims. That's the priority," he said. "When the emergency response ends, hopefully everyone has been found."

President Joko Widodo visited the area on Tuesday, offering compensation for victims and ordering disaster and rescue agencies to "mobilise their personnel".

Many of those killed were children, according to the head of Indonesia's national rescue agency Basarnas.

"They were at school, at 1 p.m., they were still studying," Henri Alfiandi told a press conference.

Some of those dead were students at an Islamic boarding school, while others were killed in their homes when roofs and walls caved in on them.

Drone footage showed the extent of a quake-triggered landslide where a wall of brown earth was only punctuated by workers using heavy machinery to clear a road.

The search operation on Tuesday was made more challenging because of severed road links and temporary power outages in parts of the largely rural, mountainous region. The devastation caused by the quake was made worse by a wave of 62 smaller aftershocks that relentlessly shook Cianjur, a town of about 1,75,000 people.

The Geological Agency of the Indonesian Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources said in an analysis posted online Monday that the soil make-up of the area could have exacerbated the impact of the quake.

Erdogan signals ground operation into Syria 'soon'; U.S., Russia seek restraint

Agence France-Presse
INSTANBUL

Offensive approach: Turkey-backed Syrian fighters near the Turkish border in the rebel-held north of Aleppo on Monday. AFP

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan vowed on Tuesday that Turkey would "soon" launch a ground operation into Syria against Kurdish targets defying mounting international pressure.

Ankara launched a series of air strikes in Operation Claw-Sword on Sunday – hitting dozens of Kurdish targets across Iraq and Syria – and announcing that its military was once again "on the top of the terrorists".

The air raids followed a bombing in Istanbul that killed six persons and wounded 81. Ankara blamed the attack on the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), which is blacklisted as a terror group by the European Union and the United States.

The Turkish leader has threatened a new military operation into northern Syria since May and upped those threats in the wake of this month's attack.

"We have been on top of terrorists for a few days with our planes, cannons and drones," Mr. Erdogan told a ceremony in the Black Sea province of Artvin. "God willing, we will root out all of them soon with our tanks, artillery and soldiers."

The U.S. on late Monday urged de-escalation and Russia said on Tuesday it hoped Turkey would exercise "restraint" and refrain from "excessive use of force" in Syria.

"We understand and respect Turkey's concerns regarding its own security... We still call on all parties to refrain from steps that could lead to seriously destabilising the situation," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

Mr. Erdogan said on Tuesday his government knew "who protects, arms and encourages those terrorists", in a veiled reference to Washington, which relied heavily on Syrian Kurdish forces in the fight against the Islamic State group. He said Turkey was patient enough, "not because it was desperate", but because it was loyal to diplomacy.

U.S., China defence chiefs meet in Cambodia, discuss Taiwan, competition spirit

Agence France-Presse
SIEM REAP

ASEAN
CAMBODIA 2022
ASEAN-UNITED STATES DEFENCE MINISTERS' INFORMAL MEE
22 November 2022, Siem Reap, Kingdom of Cambodia

Top brass: Leaders at the ASEAN-United State Defence Ministers' Informal Meeting in Cambodia on Tuesday. AP

U.S. Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin met his Chinese counterpart Wei Fenghe in Cambodia on Tuesday, with both sides describing the talks as productive without backing away from their core positions.

The rival powers have clashed over a host of issues including Taiwan, security and human rights, but there have been attempts to lower the temperature since a rare summit between the leaders of both countries last week.

U.S. President Joe Biden and Chinese leader Xi Jinping tried to cool the rhetoric but the differences were clear – and the exchange between their defence chiefs was similar.

A senior U.S. defence official said the talks between Mr. Austin and Mr. Wei on the sidelines of a conference of Defence Ministers in Siem Reap were "productive" and "professional".

"Both sides agreed that it's important that our countries work together to ensure that competition does not veer into conflict," but "competition remains the defining feature of the relationship", the official told journalists.

Mr. Austin sought the "reopening of a number of military-to-military dialogues and mechanisms to help manage that competition responsibly", the official added.

That was a reference to procedures and exchanges that were scrapped after U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi visited Taiwan in August despite furious warnings and threats from Beijing.

Lengthy exchange

The U.S. official said Mr. Austin and Mr. Wei had a "lengthy exchange" on Taiwan during the meeting, which lasted for an hour and a half.

A Chinese Defence Ministry spokesman described the meeting as "sincere, in-depth, practical and constructive".

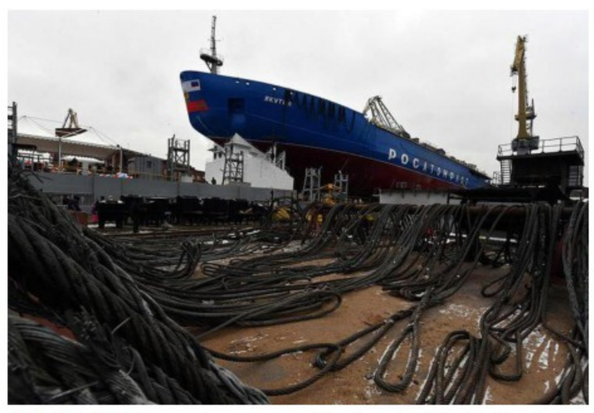
"Both sides acknowledged that both militaries should earnestly implement the important consensus reached by both heads of state, maintain communication and contact, strengthen crisis management, and work hard to uphold regional peace and stability," the spokesman said.

"China attaches importance to developing bilateral military relations, but the U.S. must respect China's core interests." China claims Taiwan is a part of its territory to be taken one day, by force if necessary.

Mr. Wei said in the meeting that Taiwan is a red line for China, the spokesman said.

Putin unveils Russia's 'Arctic power' with launch of nuclear icebreakers

Reuters
ST PETERSBURG



New frontier: The nuclear-powered ice-breaker Yakutia ahead of its float out ceremony in Saint Petersburg in Russia on Tuesday. AFP

President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday touted Russia's Arctic power at a flag-raising ceremony and dock launch for two nuclear-powered icebreakers that will ensure year-round navigation in the Western Arctic.

Presiding via video link from the Kremlin at the launch ceremony in the former imperial capital of Saint Petersburg in northern Russia, Mr. Putin said that, going ahead, such icebreakers were of strategic importance for the country.

"Both icebreakers were laid down as part of a large serial project and are part of our large-scale, systematic work to re-equip and replenish the domestic icebreaker fleet, to strengthen Russia's status as a great Arctic power," Mr. Putin said.

Greater significance

The Arctic is taking on greater strategic significance due to climate change, as a shrinking ice cap opens up new sea lanes. Vast oil and gas resources lie in Russia's Arctic regions, including a liquefied natural gas plant on the Yamal Peninsula.

The 173.3-metre *Yakutia*, with a displacement of up to 33,540 tonnes, can smash through ice of up to three metres. It will enter service in 2024. Two other icebreakers in the same series, the *Arktika* and the *Sibir*, are already in service, and another, the *Chukotka*, is scheduled for 2026.

Bigger icebreaker

Mr. Putin said a super-powerful nuclear 209-metre icebreaker known as *Rossiya*, with a displacement of up to 71,380 tonnes, would be completed by 2027. It will be able to break through ice four metres thick.

"They are needed for the study and development of the Arctic, to ensure safe, sustainable navigation in this region," Mr. Putin said.

Listen to our podcast
Is escalation built into the Russia-Ukraine war?
bit.ly/3i7xKx1

Crimea hit by drone attack: Moscow officials

Agence France-Presse
MOSCOW

The Russian-controlled Crimean peninsula in Ukraine was targeted by a drone attack on Tuesday and Moscow's forces there were "on alert", Kremlin-installed authorities said.

"There is an attack with drones," the Governor of the Sevastopol administrative region in Crimea, Mikhail Razvozhayev, said on Telegram. "Our air defence forces are working right now."

He said two drones had "already been shot down".

Mr. Razvozhayev said no civilian infrastructure had been damaged and called on residents to "remain calm."

Russia's Black Sea Fleet based in Crimea's Sevastopol port was attacked by what authorities called a "massive" drone attack.

It led Moscow to briefly pull out of a landmark Ukraine grain deal as the attack damaged at least one of its ships.

Russia annexed Crimea from Ukraine in 2014 after nationwide protests led to the ouster of Kyiv's Kremlin-friendly president.

Its forces attacked Ukraine from several directions on February 24, including Crimea.

The Moscow-appointed governor of the region said last week that authorities were strengthening positions on the peninsula as Kyiv's forces reclaim territory in the neighbouring Kherson region.

UN flags Iran situation as death toll crosses 300

Reuters
GENEVA

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights said on Tuesday that the situation in Iran was "critical", describing a hardening of the authorities' response to protests that have resulted in more than 300 deaths in the past two months.

"The rising number of deaths from protests in Iran, including those of two children at the weekend, and the hardening of the response by security forces, underline the critical situation in the country," said a spokesperson for UN human rights chief Volker Turk at a Geneva news briefing.

The Islamic Republic has been gripped by nationwide protests since the death of 22-year-old Kurdish woman Mahsa Amini in the custody of morality police on September 16 after she was arrested for wearing clothes deemed "inappropriate".

Tehran has blamed foreign enemies and their agents for orchestrating the protests, which have turned into a popular revolt.

Later this week, the UN Human Rights Council will hold a debate on the protests expected to be attended by diplomats as well as witnesses and victims.

INBRIEF

Tata Motors unveils Tiago NRG hatchback's CNG variant

Tata Motors Ltd. has introduced Tiago NRG iCNG hatchback at a starting price of ₹7,39,000 ex-showroom, Delhi. Observing the response for Tiago NRG in the last one year, the company said it was extending the NRG portfolio with iCNG Technology. "Customers have been appreciative of its SUV- inspired design language, muscular stance and high ground clearance," said Rajan Amba, VP, Sales, Marketing and Customer Care, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd.

BillBox introduces device for contactless payments

BillBox, a solutions provider in the payments and merchant ecosystem in India, has introduced TapTap, a wearable device facilitating contactless payments, in association with NSDL Payments Bank and Visa. The objective is to accessorise payment and provide convenience to users, the company said. "Now, people should wear money, not carry money in wallets," said Viraj Majmudar, MD and Group CEO, BillBox. "It is for those seeking faster, secure and frictionless payments."

Nykaa chief financial officer Arvind Agarwal resigns

FSN E-Commerce Ventures, which operates under the Nykaa brand, said its CFO Arvind Agarwal had resigned. He was among the key managerial personnel who handled the initial public offer of the firm. "Arvind deserves kudos for the critical role he has played in Nykaa's emergence as a listed and profitable start-up," FSN E-Commerce Ventures Founder and Chairperson Falguni Nayar said. PTI

Europe to be hit hardest in global slowdown, says OECD

Global growth seen falling from 3.1% in 2022 to 2.2% in 2023; national outlooks vary widely, with U.K. lagging other economies; central banks urged to keep raising interest rates to curb inflation

Reuters
PARIS

The global economy should avoid a recession next year but the worst energy crisis since the 1970s will trigger a sharp slowdown, with Europe hit hardest, the OECD said, adding that fighting inflation should be policymakers' top priority.

National outlooks vary widely, with the U.K.'s economy set to lag major peers, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development said on Tuesday. It forecast that world economic growth would slow from 3.1% this year – slightly better than foreseen in September – to 2.2% next year, before accelerating to 2.7% in 2024.

"We are not predicting a recession, but we are certainly projecting a period of pronounced weakness, OECD head Mathias Cormann told a news conference on the organisation's latest Economic Outlook.

The OECD said the global slowdown was hitting economies unevenly, with Europe bearing the brunt as Russia's war in Ukraine hits business activity and drives up energy prices.

It forecast that the 19-country euro zone economy would grow 3.3% this year then slow to 0.5% in 2023 before recovering to expand by 1.4% in 2024. That was slightly better than the OECD's September outlook, when it estimated 3.1% growth this year and 0.3% in 2023.

The U.S. economy was set to hold up better, with growth expected to slow from 1.8% this year to 0.5% in 2023 before rising to 1.0% in 2024.

Less gloomy

Projections for growth worldwide, in U.S. are better than earlier

- Global economy to dodge recession in 2023 but worst energy crisis since 1970s to trigger 'pronounced weakness'
- World growth in 2022 to be better than forecast in Sept. at 3.1%, slowing to 2.2% next year and rebounding to 2.7% in 2024

- Euro zone to expand 3.3% this year, faster than September's forecast of 3.1%; U.S. economy to hold up better and grow at 1.8% in 2022, before slowing to 0.5% next year

S&P lifts Axis Bank rating on asset quality

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

S&P Global on Tuesday lifted its credit rating on Axis Bank with a 'stable' outlook on expectations that the lender would maintain good asset quality over the next 2 years.

Axis can absorb the impact of higher inflation and interest rates, S&P said.

The long-term and short-term issuer credit rating has been raised to 'BBB-/A-3' from 'BB+/B'.

Air India lands at 'most punctual' slot for first time in eight years: DGCA data

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Air India was the most punctual airline in the country last month, according to the DGCA's monthly data on domestic air traffic. This is the first time in eight years the airline has occupied that slot.

The Tata-owned carrier recorded an on-time performance (OTP) of 90.8%, which is computed for four metro airports – Bengaluru, Delhi, Hyderabad and Mumbai – and indicates the percentage of flights that arrived or departed at the gate in less than 15 minutes of the scheduled arrival or departure time.

Vistara and AirAsia India, also owned by the Tata group, were tied for the second slot with 89.1% OTP

The other two Tata-owned airlines, Vistara and AirAsia India, were tied at the second place with an OTP of 89.1%. The largest budget carrier, IndiGo, was at the third spot at 87.5%.

GoFirst, which has been facing numerous passenger complaints, was ranked the lowest with an OTP of 60.7%.

India's fiscal consolidation trend intact, to see strong revenues, says Moody's

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Moody's Investors Service on Tuesday said the trend of gradual fiscal consolidation remains intact for India and going forward, the country will see strong revenue performance and debt stabilisation.

Senior VP Christian de Guzman said India's 'Baa3' sovereign rating balances its strength of relatively high economic growth and weakness of one of the most highly indebted emerging market sovereigns. India's healthy financial system is reflected in deleveraging by Indian corporates. "We expect that India is going to be the fastest growing G20 economy next year... (but) high inflation poses a downside risk to India's growth as households and businesses have less purchasing power," Mr. Guzman said in a Moody's virtual event 'Sovereign Deep Dive'.

Moody's had earlier this month cut India's growth projection for 2022 to 7%, from 7.7% forecast earlier. It expects growth to slow to 4.8% in 2023. The economy grew 8.5% in 2021.

Mr. Guzman said further improvement with regard to the fiscal situation and a faster-than-expected pace of fiscal consolidation leading to substantial debt reduction would translate into a positive rating pressure on India.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	61,419	0.45
US Dollar	81.67	0.15
Gold	52,731	-0.22
Brent oil	88.90	3.35

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	4034.00	32.15
Adani Ports	882.45	10.85
Apollo Hosp	4469.80	50.95
Asian Paints	3103.85	8.55
Axis Bank	870.05	0.00
Bajaj Auto	3619.10	-0.40
Bajaj Finserv	1643.35	7.50
Bajaj Finance	6685.05	5.95
Bharti Airtel	847.60	-3.60
BPCL	306.85	-3.45
Britannia Ind	4157.60	37.55
Cipla	1104.10	-0.35
Coal India	229.10	-0.35
Divis Lab	3305.60	39.65
Dr Reddys Lab	4362.50	12.65
Eicher Motors	3375.05	-3.55
Grasim Ind	1699.70	17.30
HCL Tech	1103.40	7.90
HDFC	2625.35	6.45
HDFC Bank	1595.00	-2.35
HDFC Life	539.95	7.60
Hero MotoCorp	2685.45	8.00
Hindalco	430.65	0.10
Hind Unilever	2515.70	14.30
ICICI Bank	923.70	2.30
IndusInd Bank	1169.40	30.40
Infosys	1585.05	16.85
ITC	340.25	3.05
JSW Steel	708.25	11.70
Kotak Bank	1939.75	-4.35
L&T	2029.80	18.35
M&M	1228.45	10.20
Maruti Suzuki	8873.75	8.55
NestleIndia	19613.50	-148.20
NTPC	167.05	2.65
ONGC	135.20	-0.25
PowerGrid Corp	217.80	-1.25
Reliance Ind	2565.05	14.15
SBI Life	1229.05	2.45
State Bank	599.10	1.00
Sun Pharma	1010.10	6.95
TataConsumerProduct	771.30	0.35
Tata Motors	424.70	3.60
Tata Steel	105.20	0.95
TCS	3314.95	31.45
Tech Mahindra	1050.65	8.05
Titan	2606.20	32.85
UltraTech Cement	6843.05	88.20
UPL	768.75	9.15
Wipro	388.80	0.15

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on November 22

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
Euro	83.73	84.06
British Pound	96.60	96.99
Japanese Yen (100)	57.63	57.85
Chinese Yuan	11.42	11.46
Swiss Franc	85.31	85.65
Singapore Dollar	59.04	59.28
Canadian Dollar	60.79	61.03
Malaysian Ringitt	17.79	17.88
Australian Dollar	54.10	54.32

Source:Indian Bank

DRL faces antitrust litigation in U.S. over cancer medicine

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Dr. Reddy's Laboratories and a few other drugmakers have been named defendants in a complaint filed in the U.S. under the federal and State antitrust laws over the cancer medicine Revlimid.

"The complaint, which purports to be on behalf of a class of indirect purchasers, asserts claims under federal and State antitrust laws and other State laws alleging that the defendants improperly restrained competition and maintained a shared monopoly in the sale of brand and generic Revlimid through their respective settlements of patent litigation," Dr. Reddy's said in a filing to the stock exchanges on Tuesday.

'Delayed entry'

The complaint alleges that the challenged agreements improperly delayed generic entry entirely until 2022 and then improperly limited generic competition through 2026. The complaint has sought damages for purported overpayments and equitable relief, the drugmaker said.

Dr. Reddy's asserted that the allegations against it lack merit and that the company would 'vigorously' defend the litigation.

Besides Dr. Reddy's and its wholly owned subsidiary Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Inc., Celgene, Bristol Myers Squibb and several generic pharmaceuticals companies have been named defendants in the complaint filed on November 18 in the District of New Jersey.

Earlier this month, Natco Pharma said it had been named as one of the defendants in an antitrust lawsuit in the U.S. regarding cancer drug Lenalidomide (Revlimid). It asserted the matter was without merit.

Glenmark, Pfizer settle over copy of cancer drug

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Glenmark Pharmaceuticals on Tuesday said it had entered into a settlement agreement with Pfizer Inc. regarding a copy of a drug for treating kidney cancer.

The Mumbai-based drug maker and its U.S.-based unit have inked a settlement pact with drug major Pfizer for Axitinib Tablets (1 mg and 5 mg).

Glenmark's product is the generic version of Pfizer's Inlyta tablets, used to treat kidney cancer.

As per IQVIATM sales data for the 12 months ending September, the Inlyta tablets (1 mg and 5 mg) achieved annual sales of about $644.5 million.

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Over-the-top services must be licensed, says COAI

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Telecom operators' body COAI made a strong pitch for OTT (over-the-top) communication services to directly compensate telcos for data traffic they are driving onto the networks, as it advocated a licensing and light-touch regulation framework for them.

Cellular Operators' Association of India (COAI) Director General SP Kochhar said the association, as part of the draft telecom bill, has given its suggestions on how OTT communication services should be defined to ensure that there is no ambiguity.

Govt. said to grant more funds for rural schemes to ease pain

Reuters
NEW DELHI

> Rural unemployment rate has remained above 7% for the majority of the months in the current fiscal year that started on April 1, 2022
> CMIE

The Indian government will likely raise its allocation to the Rural Development Ministry by 18% to ₹1.60 trillion ($14.19 billion) for the current fiscal year, partly to bolster its job scheme, a top government source told Reuters.

India had allocated ₹1.36 trillion for 2022/23 for various schemes in the hinterland, but the stress in rural areas has led to increased demand for the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, the country's only minimum job guarantee scheme, which pays $2 to $3 a day.

The additional funds will be used to bulk up job and affordable housing schemes in the fiscal year ending March 2023, said the official, who did not want to be named. India's Finance and Rural Development Ministries did not immediately respond to requests for comments.

The government had initially budgeted ₹730 billion for the job scheme and ₹200 billion for the housing scheme. It has already spent ₹632.6 billion on the jobs programme, according to the Rural Development Ministry's website.

Coming out of the pandemic, the country's rural areas were under stress, with rising prices and limited non-farm job opportunities, forcing more people to sign up for the government's job scheme.

The rural unemployment rate has remained above 7% for the majority of the months in the current financial year that started on April 1, 2022, according to data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), a private think-tank.

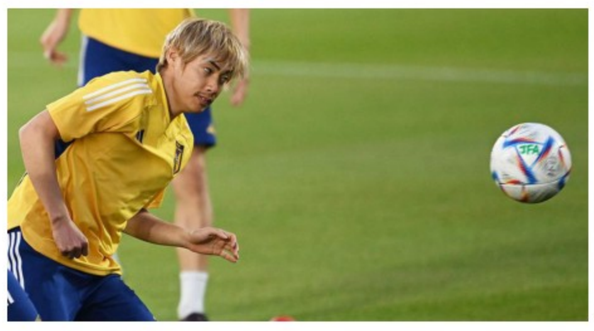
RANK OUTSIDER

2018 runner-up Croatia faces the Morocco challenge in opener

Croatia has lost only once in 16 months, but the 2018 runner-up, led by midfield conjuror Luka Modric, will begin its World Cup campaign against Morocco on Wednesday with little fanfare. So unfancied is Zlatko Dalic's side that the bookmakers are offering 50-1 odds on the team lifting the trophy this time around.

READY TO ROCK

Japan coach Moriyasu hopes to upstage 'role model' Germany



Japan manager Hajime Moriyasu is hoping the apprentices can upset the masters when they take on "role model" Germany in their World Cup opener on Wednesday. Germany has become a popular destination for Japanese players in recent years, with eight of the current squad playing in the Bundesliga.

FRESH BEGINNING

Young stars in focus as Spain meets experienced Costa Rica

A new era is about to start for Spain at the World Cup, with a generation of talented young players taking centrestage in its quest to win a second World title. Spain's revamped squad, led by Pedri and Gavi, will be put to the test on Wednesday against an experienced Costa Rica, which reached the last eight in 2014.

NO PUSHOVER

Belgium has huge respect for Canada, says coach Martinez

Belgium coach Roberto Martinez on Tuesday said his side has "huge respect" for Canada, which will be playing in the World Cup after 36 years. "We have huge respect for what Canada has achieved because when you finish top of the (qualifying) group ahead of teams like USA and Mexico, it's something with substance," he said.

Saudi Arabia pulls the rug from under Argentina's feet

Aldawsari's wonder-strike for the winner, after Alshehri's equaliser, sends the Asian team's raucous supporters into a tizzy and the South Americans into despondency

FIFA WORLD CUP

Ayon Sengupta
DOHA

It took Lionel Messi 10 minutes and a penalty – that silenced a raucous Saudi crowd behind the team dugouts at the Lusail Stadium – to set sail for yet another World Cup adventure – his last – to exorcise the ghosts of disappointments past.

But his sails lost their wind in five terrifying second-half minutes, handing Argentina a 2-1 opening-game ambush by Saudi Arabia.

Starting the first afternoon match in Qatar, the Argentines, particularly left-back Nicolas Tagliafico, struggled a bit to adjust their focus in the beating sun. But Messi soon had his first shot on target after a Lautaro Martinez backheel in the second minute. His left footer, though, was pushed away by goalkeeper Mohammed Alowais.

VAR into play

A foul on Rodrigo De Paul on the left in the eighth minute saw Messi play the freekick wide, but the game was abruptly stopped as referee Slavko Vincic ran to the VAR console to check whether Saud Abdulhamid had grappled Leandro Paredes to the floor from the earlier corner.

An unflustered Messi waited an eternity to allow the goalie to make his move before rolling it in to Alowais' now-vacant right.

The Saudis didn't immediately give up, and a nice passage of passing saw Abdulhamid deliver a cross inside the box, bringing Emiliano Martinez his first action of the game in the 16th minute.

But Argentina played the first half with a swagger of its 36-match unbeaten run, composed in possession, willing to bide its time, but never allowing the Saudis a minute of respite.

The world thought a second came in the 23rd minute after Messi ran behind the high-lying defence to latch on to a lofted pass from Alejandro Gomez in the left. His calm swerving finish past the keeper, however, was ruled out for offside.

A few minutes later, Lautaro's lifted effort was also disallowed. Another goal came with another offside in the 35th minute.

The disallowed goals left a sense of foreboding, despite Argentina's dominance, as half time appeared.

Fortune favoured Saudi Arabia soon, as Saleh Alshehri scored between the legs of a diving Cristian Romero and the outstretched left hand of Emiliano to redraw the balance of power almost immediately after the restart.

Festive buzz

The Saudi Arabia fans rediscovered their voice and the stadium again had a festive buzz. They grew louder as their champion Salem Aldawsari fired an electric arcing effort to the top left corner of Emiliano's goal in the 53rd minute.

Suddenly, Argentina's recent form didn't matter, and a group of elite athletes, for 10 minutes, were left cowering like the helpless Brandyfoots facing the Dweller's fire.

A triple substitution by Lionel Scaloni didn't have the desired result – a goalline save by Abdulelah Al-Amri from a Julian Alvarez shot in the second of the eight additional minutes and just later a header from him, gleefully accepted by a turbocharged Alowais, where the closest this Argentinian dhow came to a last-minute mid-sea rescue.

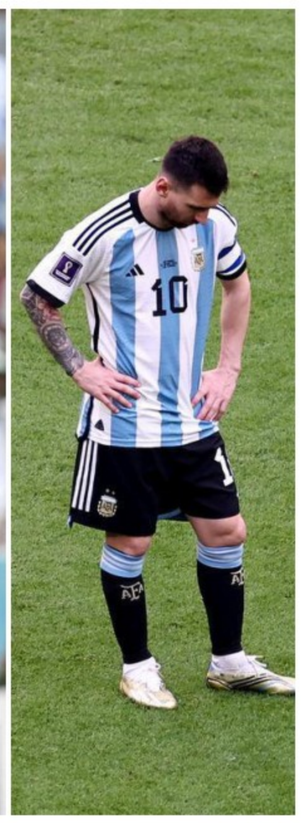
In the end, there were tears of joy for the Saudi supporters, who backed their team throughout, but Argentina, desperate to deliver the Cup to its genius, was left pondering its World Cup future.

The result:

Group C: Argentina 1 (Messi 10-pen) lost to Saudi Arabia 2 (Alshehri 48, Aldawsari 53).

Twist to the tale: Aldawsari is head over heels after putting Saudi Arabia in front. GETTY IMAGES

A very hard blow for everyone, we didn't expect to start like this: Messi



High and low: Alowais rose to the occasion to thwart Messi's men. AFP & REUTERS

Ayon Sengupta
DOHA

After being rudely jolted from his 'happy' dreams of enjoying the World Cup, a ghostly Lionel Messi, with life sucked out of him after 55-minutes of second-half nightmare, had very little energy to answer the probing questions of the world press.

"There are no excuses. We must be more united than ever. This group is strong, but it's a situation we haven't gone through in a long time. Now, we have to show that this is a real group," said the Argentine captain, who was at the receiving end of one of the greatest World Cup upsets.

"It's a very hard blow for everyone, we didn't expect to start like this. Things happen for a reason. We should prepare for what's coming; we have to win, and it depends on us."

A seismic shock

Saudi Arabia's sensational win over Argentina is the biggest upset in World Cup history going by Elo ratings*. A list of the top-10 coups at the football showpiece:

	Winner	Loser	Year	Elo rating difference
1	**S. Arabia**	**Argentina**	**2022**	**508**
2	U.S.	England	1950	496
3	Algeria	West Germany	1982	463
4	Senegal	France	2002	394
5	Russia	Spain	2018	366
6	Wales	Hungary	1958	364
7	S. Korea	Germany	2018	364
8	Yugoslavia	Brazil	1930	355
9	Ghana	Czech Republic	2006	354
10	Switzerland	Spain	2010	351

**Elo ratings, given to each country at the start of every tournament, are a measure of a team's strength. The Elo system derives ratings using the results of previous international games. It adds weightage based on the opponent's strength and makes adjustments for home advantage and goal difference. The rating difference between Argentina (2,143 points) and Saudi Arabia (1,635) - 508, is the highest ever for an upset*

Compiled by Vignesh Radhakrishnan and Rebecca Rose Varghese

An equally dejected Lionel Scaloni, the Argentine manager, found it difficult to comprehend the whirlwind five second-half minutes that altered the course of the game.

"It's hard to understand because in five minutes they scored the two goals, the only shots on target. We don't have any other choice but to get up and continue, we have to win the two remaining games. It's a sad day but we must keep our head up and keep going," he said.

Scaloni philosophical

"The first half was all ours. If any of the offsides had been a goal... a goal can change things. Saudi Arabia's line is advanced and some offsides were millimetres but that's what technology is for. They gave us one and then took the rest away," a philosophical Scaloni added.

Argentina, which claimed to have arrived at this tournament surrounded by *tranquilito* (calmness), now, suddenly must weather a storm.

"They are hurt and thinking about the result and (how) to turn the situation around. We were doing well. We couldn't have come better. But these tournaments don't give you time to be wrong," said Scaloni.

"If we had won, we would also think about Mexico. The result doesn't change the analysis."

Short celebration

For Saudi Arabia's coach Herve Renard, the celebration would be short despite the unbelievable result. "Have a good celebration for 20 minutes and that's it," he said.

"We made history for Saudi football. It will stay forever.

"This is the most important thing, but we also need to think about looking forward because we still have two very difficult games."

Weah, Bale to the fore in a zestless stalemate between USA and Wales

Ayon Sengupta
DOHA

It was a zestless 1-1 stalemate between USA and Wales in a game of plenty of mispasses and cynical fouls. It was also a game of expectations – hunching down on the shoulders of a youngster and an aged warrior. For Timothy Weah, USA's scorer, the burden is the constant comparison with a genius father, former *Ballon D'Or* winner and current Liberian President George Weah.

For Wales' Gareth Bale, the hopes of a nation and the need to answer the critics are always there. He, too, scored from the spot to give the Dragons a satisfactory return to the world stage after 64 years.

Neatly done: Weah flicks the ball past the Welsh defence for USA's opener. GETTY IMAGES

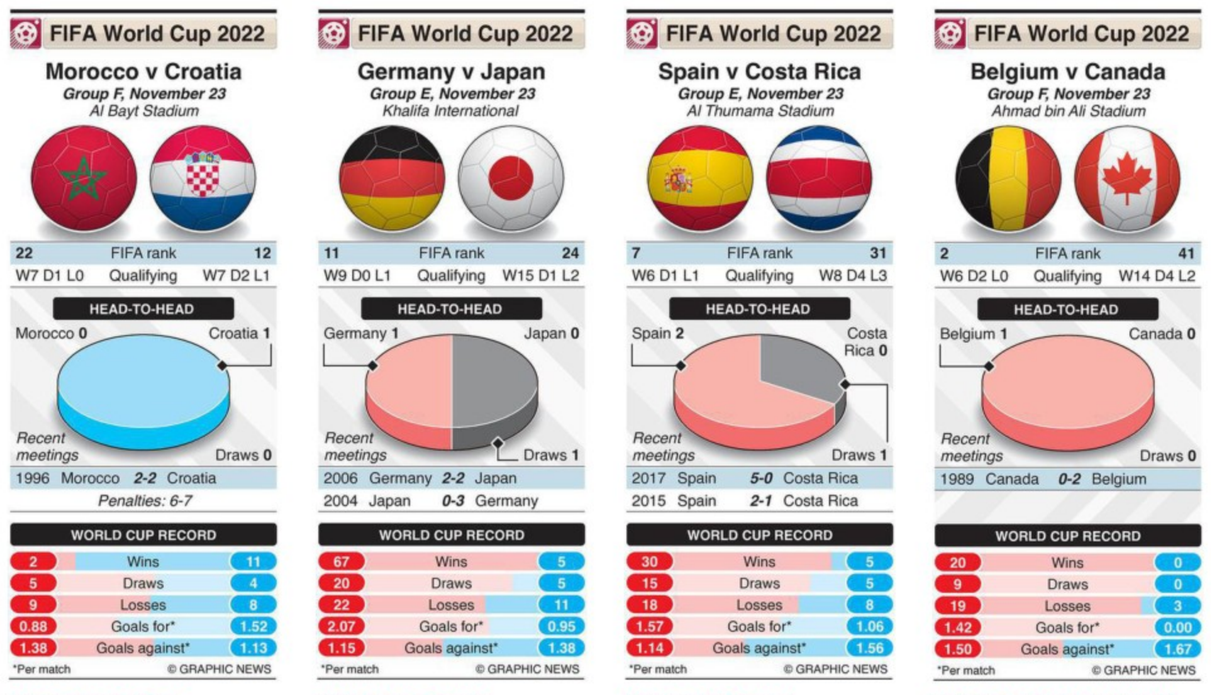
Bale also had the jitters while taking a penalty in the 82nd minute. "Of course, you feel the pressure but it's my responsibility... my job to step up and take penalties. I'm thankful it went in."

Timothy was happy to do what his father never achieved. The 22-year-old scored in the 36th minute to send the Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium into a tizzy.

With his famous father and Jamaican mother and a few uncles in the stands, it was a proud moment for Liberia's first family.

The results: Group B: USA 1 (Weah 36) drew with Wales 1 (Bale 82-pen).
Group C: Mexico 0 drew with Poland 0.
Group D: Tunisia 0 drew with Denmark 0.

TODAY'S FIESTA



INBRIEF

Head, Warner plunder tons as Australia crushes England

Centuries by Travis Head and David Warner helped Australia thrash a tired England by 221 runs on Tuesday in the third and final One-Day International at the Melbourne Cricket Ground to sweep the series 3-0.

The scores: Australia 355/5 in 48 overs (Travis Head 152, David Warner 106, Mitchell Marsh 30; Olly Stone 4/85) bt England 142 in 31.4 overs (Adam Zampa 4/31). **MoM:** Head; **MoS:** Warner.

Injured in freak accident, Maxwell may miss India tour

Bed-ridden after a freak accident, star all-rounder Glenn Maxwell feels he is unlikely to recover in time for Australia's tour of India, scheduled in February-March. Ruled out for an indefinite period, he is currently recovering from surgery on a fractured fibula. Maxwell said his former schoolteacher had fallen on his leg at a friend's birthday party.

Pooran quits as captain of West Indies white-ball teams

Nicholas Pooran has resigned as captain of the West Indies white-ball teams following the team's disastrous showing at last month's T20 World Cup, Cricket West Indies said on Monday. "I have given the captaincy a great deal of thought since the enormous disappointment of the T20 World Cup," said Pooran, who also relinquishes captaincy of the ODI team.

Gokulam holds Real Kashmir to a goalless draw

The goalkeepers stole the show with some superb display as Real Kashmir FC and Gokulam Kerala FC played out a goalless draw in their I-League match in Srinagar on Tuesday. With this result, both teams maintain their respective unbeaten starts and also make it three clean sheets in a row.

Thalaivas brook no resistance from U Mumba, rise to fifth

Tamil Thalaivas produced a clinical show to ease past U Mumba 34-20 in the Pro Kabaddi League in Hyderabad on Tuesday. Captain Sagar led from the front with eight tackle points while Ajinkya Pawar scored five raid points. Thalaivas climbed to fifth in the table. In the other match, Patna Pirates edged out Telugu Titans 36-35.

WEDNESDAY'S HAZARE TROPHY SCHEDULE

Group A (Delhi): Saurashtra vs. Uttar Pradesh; Gujarat vs. Himachal Pradesh; Chandigarh vs. Hyderabad; Manipur vs. Tripura.

Group B (Kolkata): Karnataka vs. Rajasthan; Jharkhand vs. Vidarbha; Assam vs. Delhi; Meghalaya vs. Sikkim.

Group C (Bengaluru): Goa vs. Haryana; Arunachal Pradesh vs. Bihar; Kerala vs. Tamil Nadu; Andhra vs. Chhattisgarh.

Group D (Mumbai): Baroda vs. Madhya Pradesh; Nagaland vs. Punjab; Jammu & Kashmir vs. Uttarakhand.

Group E (Ranchi): Maharashtra vs. Pondicherry; Mizoram vs. Services; Mumbai vs. Railways.

LIVE TELECAST

FIFA World Cup 2022: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 3.30, 6.30, 9.30 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Thursday)

I-League: Eurosport (SD & HD), 4.30 & 7 p.m.

PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m. onwards

Rain-hit third T20I ends in a tie; India wins series

Arshdeep and Siraj fire in tandem to share eight wickets; Conway and Phillips score half-centuries; visiting team's top-order wobbles before Hardik steadies the innings

INDIA IN NZ

Press Trust of India
NAPIER

Arshdeep Singh and Mohammed Siraj stopped New Zealand in its tracks with game-changing spells before India won the rain-marred third and final T20I via Duckworth-Lewis-Stern method to claim the three-match series 1-0, here on Tuesday.

Arshdeep and Siraj fired in tandem and shared eight wickets as India bowled New Zealand out for 160 in 19.4 overs after the hosts elected to bat. New Zealand was going strong at 130 for two in the 16th over but Arshdeep (4/37) and Siraj (4/17) led India's remarkable comeback.

The hosts lost eight wickets for just 30 runs after Devon Conway (59, 49b) and Glenn Phillips (54, 33b) had propped up the innings. In reply, India was precariously placed at 75 for four when rain stopped play.

It was a DLS par-score at that time. The game never resumed and ended in a tie.

Well done boys! Team India players celebrate the series win in Napier. AP

SCOREBOARD

NEW ZEALAND

Finn Allen lbw b Arshdeep 3 (4b), Devon Conway c Kishan b Arshdeep 59 (49b, 5x4, 2x6), Mark Chapman c Arshdeep b Siraj 12 (12b, 2x4), Glenn Phillips c Bhuvneshwar b Siraj 54 (33b, 5x4, 3x6), Daryl Mitchell c Pant b Arshdeep 10 (5b, 2x4), James Neesham c Pant b Siraj 0 (3b), Mitchell Santner c Chahal b Siraj 1(3b), Adam Milne run out 0 (1b), Ish Sodhi b Arshdeep 0 (1b), Tim Southee b Harshal 6 (5b, 1x4), Lockie Ferguson (not out) 5 (3b); Extras (lb- 5, w-4, nb-1): 10; Total (in 19.4 overs): 160.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-9 (Allen, 1.3 overs), 2-44 (Chapman, 5.2), 3-130 (Phillips, 15.5), 4-146 (Conway, 16.4), 5-147 (Neesham, 17.1), 6-149 (Santner, 17.5), 7-149 (Mitchell, 18.1), 8-149 (Sodhi, 18.2), 9-149 (Milne, 18.3).

INDIA BOWLING

Bhuvneshwar 4-0-35-0, Arshdeep 4-0-37-4, Siraj 4-0-17-4, Hooda 1-0-3-0, Chahal 3-0-35-0, Harshal 3.4-0-28-1.

INDIA

Ishan Kishan c Chapman b Milne 10 (11b, 1x4, 1x6), Rishabh Pant c Sodhi b Southee 11 (5b, 2x4), Suryakumar Yadav c Phillips b Sodhi 13 (10b, 1x4, 1x6), Shreyas Iyer c Neesham b Southee 0 (1b), Hardik Pandya (not out) 30 (18b, 3x4, 1x6), Deepak Hooda (not out) 9 (9b); Extras (w-2): 2; Total (for four wkts. in nine overs): 75.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-13 (Kishan, 1.6), 2-21 (Pant, 2.4), 3-21 (Shreyas, 2.5), 4-60 (Suryakumar, 6.3).

NEW ZEALAND BOWLING

Southee 3-0-27-2, Milne 2-0-23-1, Ferguson 1-0-8-0, Sodhi 2-0-12-1, Santner 1-0-5-0.

Toss: New Zealand; **Player-of-the-Match:** Siraj; **Player-of-the-Series:** Suryakumar.

Match tied (DLS method), India clinched the three-match series 1-0.

Next match: First ODI: November 25, Auckland, 7 a.m. IST.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Vakula Chandra scores century

G. Vakula Chandra top-scored with 107 as Cambridge CC defeated Jaidur Cricketers by 113 runs in the KSCA (Group I) under-14 inter-club tournament.

The scores: Cambridge CC 210 in 48.1 overs (G. Vakula Chandra 107, Daniel James 27, Krishna Siddharth Mottadi 6/39) bt Jaidur Cricketers 97 in 37.5 overs (G.M. Praneel 26, Arav Prasad 4/17).

FUCC (1) 223 in 45.2 overs (Dhruv Modhe 65, A.A. Rohith 80, Abhishek N. Gowda 25, Purav Shikar 6/33) bt Jawahar SC (1) 217 in 48.5 overs (Abhinav Jha 66, Krishna N. Pahuja 29, K. Adhrit 5/46).

Hanumanthnagar Cricketers 45 in 28 overs (S. Leshan 4/10) lost to Rajajinagar Cricketers 46 for no loss in 4.4 overs.

Jupiter CA 193 in 47.5 overs (R. Parth 73, Nikith Girish 72 n.o.) bt Jawahar SC (2) 116 in 36 overs (Shamanth 33, B.R. Rathan 5/32).

BUCC (1) 190 in 44.4 overs (Adhrit Rao 101 n.o.) lost to Engrades CC 191/7 in 49.1 overs (N. Prajwal 69, Punith Lakshman Kumar 33 n.o., P. Rithesh 4/22).

Bharath CC 156 in 41.5 overs (Sasmith S. Shetty 53, Milan Dhami 5/25) lost to Coles CC 158/7 in 46.1 overs (Kush Kumar Jha 28, Manan Goel 49 n.o.).

Bangalore Occasionals 292/3 in 50 overs (C. Barath 71, S.B. Pranay 35, Ayaan Sharmod Kumar 100 n.o., Omkar 38) bt Visweswarapuram CC (2) 162/7 in 50 overs (R.C. Tanish Yadav 52, Abhishek 25 n.o.).

Herons CC 256 in 48.5 overs (A. Akshay Rangan 69, Chavanth R. Gowda 75, Harshit Arun Mishra 3/41, Laksh M. Achar 3/34) bt Jawans CC 117 in 47.4 overs (Sreearjun Balusu 4/17).

Easy for MEG & Center FC

MEG & Center FC blanked FC Agniputhra 4-0 in the BDFA Super Division League football here on Tuesday.

The scores: ASC & Center FC 4 (Wahengbam Niraj Singh 19, Elangbam Tondon Meitei 51, Tongbram Krishna Kanta 66, Birsha Tudu 84) bt Roots FC 1 (Gabriel George Savage 90+1); Rebels FC 1 (Sanjib Singh 43) bt BUFC 0; BFC 4 (Monirul Molla 8, Bekey Oram 47, Lal Pekhlua 74, Ankith 89) bt Bangalore Eagles FC 0; MEG & Center FC 4 (Thangam Token Singh 27, K. Naveen 34, K.T. Md. Ajmal 80, Shaik Mujeeb 90) bt FC Agniputhra 0.

Sujith nets winner

Sujith scored the winner as East India HC edged Sahyadri HC Shivamogga 1-0 in the KSHA C-Division League hockey here on Tuesday.

The results: East India HC 1 (Sujith 30) bt Sahyadri HC Shivamogga 0; DPS East 1 (Harshik Shamal 44) drew with Blue Star HC 1 (Joseph 49).

Kush Maini for Formula 2

Kush Maini will join the Formula 2 grid next year with Campos Racing. He graduates from Formula 3 where he finished 14th in the championship with MP Motorsport.

Over the last three years Jehan Daruvala and Kush's elder brother Arjun have competed in F2 in the past.

Shafali, Yastika catch the eye with blistering knocks

T20 CHALLENGER

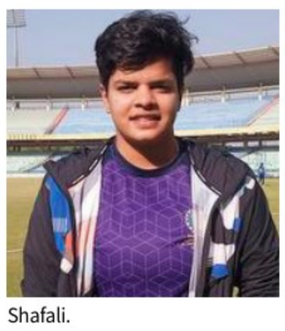
P. K. Ajith Kumar
RAIPUR

The score was small enough, but Shafali Verma made it look smaller.

Her blistering 91 not out off 52 balls (11x4, 4x6) powered India-B to a nine-wicket win, with 5.5 overs to spare, in the Senior Women's T20 Challenger Trophy tournament at the Shaheed Veer Narayan Stadium here on Tuesday. Remarkably, the swashbuckling opener scored almost 80 per cent of her team's total; the target was 111.

Sure, Shafali got a couple of lives but she had been stroking the ball sweetly from the time she came in. She lofted and drove beautifully.

Both – opener Dhara Gujjar (eight) and skipper Deepti Sharma (13 not out) – were virtually spectators in the 37-run first and 77-run unfinished second wicket partnerships.



Shafali.

Yastika.

Earlier, Deepti scalped four with her off-spin during India-A's miserable show with the bat. Only Amanjout Kaur (49, 49b, 8x4) and opener Shivali Shinde (22) managed to last more than a dozen balls.

India-D trounced India-C by 47 runs in the day's other match, in which opener Yastika Bhatia was extremely unlucky to miss out on what would have been a splendid hundred. She was stranded on 99 not out (61b, 16x4, 1x6).

The scores: India-A 110 in 20 overs (Shilpa Shinde 22, Amanjout Kaur 49, Sonal Kalal 2/13, Deepti Sharma 4/15) lost to India-B 114/1 in 14.1 overs Shafali Verma 91 n.o.).

India-D 165/5 in 20 overs (Yastika Bhatia 99 n.o., Jemimah Rodrigues 26) bt India-C 118/7 in 20 overs (Priya Punia 23, Richa Ghosh 36, Tarunnum Pathan 26, Renuka Singh 3/27, Shraddha Pokharkar 2/12).

Usha, Yogeshwar among eight named in IOA electoral college

Sports Bureau

The Athletes Commission of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), with M.C. Mary Kom as chairperson, has chosen eight 'Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit' (SOM) as voting members of the IOA's General Assembly.

The SOMs are M.M. Somaya (hockey), P.T. Usha (athletics), Yogeshwar Dutt (wrestling), Suma Shirur (shooting), Rohit Rajpal (tennis), Aparna Popat (badminton), Akhil Kumar (boxing) and Dola Banerjee (archery). More than 50 athletes had applied for the position, meeting the basic criteria of having retired from the sport, and winning at least a medal in the Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games.

Apart from the eight SOMs, two more nominated by the Athletes Commission – Gagan Narang and P.V. Sindhu – will also be part of the electoral college, along with IOC member Nita Ambani.

The election of the IOA Executive Council will be for president, senior vice-president, two vice-presidents, two joint secretaries, six executive members, including one male and one female member from among the eight SOMs. The two representatives of the Athletics Commission will also be part of the Executive Council.

Nominations should be submitted in person, from Nov. 25 to 27. After scrutiny, the list of nominated candidates will be posted on Nov. 30. After the withdrawal deadline, the final list of candidates will be displayed on Dec. 4. The election will be held on Dec. 10, and the results will be announced by 3 p.m. that day.

India dumps USA, meets France in quarterfinals

WORLD TEAM CHESS

Sports Bureau

Victories for Vidit Gujrathi and S.L. Narayanan on the first and third boards with black pieces set up India's 3-1 win over USA for a place in the quarterfinals of the World team chess championship in Jerusalem on Tuesday.

Vidit beat Hans Moke Niemann and Narayanan overpowered Varuzhan Akobian while Nihal Sarin and S.P. Sethuraman played out draws against Alexander Onishchuk and Yunieskey Quesada Perez respectively.

Standings (after the league):

Group A: 1. China (9 points), 2-4. France, Spain, Ukraine (6 each), 5. Netherlands, 6. South Africa (0).

Group B: 1-2. Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan (7 each), 3. India (6), 4-5. Poland (4 each), 6. USA (2).

What do they know of cricket who only men's cricket know?

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

Sport in the subcontinent is often a story of early player determination, individual obsession that gets things done, family support or aggressive discouragement, politics and intrigues, and enough hurdles that make sportspersons looking back wonder how they managed everything. A career is an interlude between frustration and success.

And that is in men's sport. Women's sport has all those problems and then some.

In the foreword to Aayush Puthran's history of Pakistan women's cricket, *Unveiling Jazbaa*, the novelist Kamila Shamsie riffs on a famous question, asking, What do they know of cricket who only men's cricket know? Stories of struggles and beating the system told here make such books valuable, even reducing the pressures on the next generation.

Women's cricket suffers from a another subcontinental malady: lack of proper record-keeping. Puthran relied on newspapers and websites, and while working through the pandemic, on zoom calls for his interviews and a consistent oral history.

It is a tremendous effort, and has resulted in a book that looks at Pakistan's society and politics and how they have affected cricket (and vice versa). Sport cannot be seen in isolation, and the book is the richer and more nuanced for this understanding.

Poverty, hunger and social exclusion were the companions of the early players, some of whom had to resort to cutting their hair to pass off as boys just to play and travel. And to keep their secret from their fathers.

Owing to two sisters

Pakistan cricket owes much to the sisters Shaiza and Sharmeen Khan, expatriates living in London, who returned to Karachi in 1988 following Zia-ul-Haq's death. Under Benazir Bhutto, there was hope. The sisters had cricket in their DNA – their mother had postponed her wedding to watch the West Indies play in 1959!

The Karachi Ladies Cricket Club was formed in 1988, and came up against death threats from the far right when they decided to play against a veteran men's team that included Zaheer Abbas.

Shazia negotiated with this group, and agreed that the team would play only against other women. Both teams stayed at Shazia's house, no spectators were allowed in the stadium (there were 8000 policemen, though). It was slow going.

The Pakistan Women's Cricket Control Association was formed in 1996, but to play in the World Cup Pakistan needed to play three internationals. Selection trials were organised, a team was picked, and under the shadow of a travel ban, they left for New Zealand and Australia. Their kit was packed in cartons, and players kept a low profile in case everything came unstuck at the airport.

Soon enough - another subcontinental commonplace -two and three organisations claimed to be the official governing body. And so the show went on.

Pakistan won the Asian Games title in 2010 and again in 2014, and the social impact was positive, says Puthran, but even as recently as 2021, their star Nida Dar "was mocked on national television for having strong hands by the international Abdul Razzaq who said, 'If you shake hands with her it feels as if you are shaking hands with a man'". There was too a sexual harassment case in 2014 which led to a suicide. During the 2018 World T20, Pakistani players skipped meals to save money.

Progressive measures

Yet, as Pakistan cricket and society struggled to come out of the dark, there were progressive measures that set them apart even from India, who had a better organised system. In 2021, the Pakistan Cricket Board put in place a parental pregnancy policy, offering women cricketers paid leave and also the option to transfer to a non-playing role until commencement of their maternity leave and leading up to the birth of the child.

"While our stories are about strong women, they're also about strong men," superstar Sana Mir tells the author, "My father had to have a big heart to send me into a system where he knew I wouldn't be given proper food, where he knew I wouldn't be given a proper bed to sleep."

The book considers the good and the bad, the indifferent and the highs, and decides that *jazbaa* (passion) triumphs in the end, and that's what matters. Not all books on cricket are necessary. This one is.